

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 AUGUST 1984

Lebanon

Security Situation — Regarding the fire "demonstrators" had set to the Saudi Consulate in Beirut, the Saudi representation in Lebanon issued a statement, transmitted by SPA, in which Saudi Arabia "strongly" denounced the attack and affirmed that the incident will not affect the "sound line" of Saudi policy. The statement added that Saudi King Fahd had requested Saudi officials in Lebanon to ensure the comfort of pilgrims before the attack occurred. In a related development, King Fahd ordered Saudi authorities on 24 August to grant entry visas to 6,000 Lebanese pilgrims who wish to travel to Saudi Arabia, Beirut radio noted.

Al-Hakim Funeral — In a speech broadcast by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio at the funeral of Major General Nadim al-Hakim, killed in a helicopter crash on 23 August, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt claimed that the "martyrdom" was an attempt to keep nationalist influence out of the military establishment. He asserted that he will not accept anything short of "arming the nationalist brigades," and that he will not accept the presence of the Lebanese Army in the "nationalist areas" of the mountain. Linking the expansion of the security agreements to the mountain area with the liberation of the south are "mean and despicable attempts" by the "rancorous" regime, a regime to which he does not belong and will not belong, he added. Meanwhile, the committee investigating the helicopter crash has confirmed that the incident occurred because of poor visibility in fog rather than an explosion on board, according to committee sources cited by the Voice of Lebanon.

Pakistan-DRA

The third round of UN-sponsored indirect talks on the Afghanistan problem began in Geneva on 24 August, Karachi radio noted. UN Under Secretary General Diego Cordovez was scheduled to meet with Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan after meeting with Ali Khan's Afghan counterpart Shah Mohammad Dost. Referring to the recent claims of territorial violations, Cordovez stated that it will be "regrettable" if the "present difficult situation" in the region is allowed to influence the diplomatic process, the radio added.

Hijacked Plane

The seven Sikhs who hijacked an Indian plane on 24 August surrendered in Dubai on 25 August, Dubayy radio reported citing WAM. The hijackers have been granted political asylum in the UAE for 1 week while awaiting their request for U.S. asylum, the radio added. However, according to Muscat radio, the UAE denied that it has granted temporary political asylum to the hijackers.

Maghreb

Syrian President's Visit — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi in Algiers on 25 and 26 August and discussed "bilateral and general Arab issues" during a "working and friendly visit," Algiers radio reported. The Syrian delegation had earlier visited Libyan leaders 23-25 August, SANA added. While in Algiers, the Syrian delegation also met with SDAR President Mohamed Abdelaziz during his stopover on 26 August, Algiers radio noted.

Libya-Tunisia — Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi and his Libyan counterpart 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki signed a cooperation protocol in Tunis on 24 August following talks held in a "fraternal atmosphere" with a "constructive and positive spirit," Tunis radio reported. In a related development, Essebsi disclosed that Libya has requested to join the agreement of fraternity and accord that was signed between Tunisia, Algeria, and Mauritania, MENA noted. Essebsi also affirmed that Tunisia's agreement with the other two states does not indicate that Tunisia is against the Libya-Morocco accord, but rather that Tunisia "blesses" it.

Red Sea Mines

All ships intending to cross the Suez Canal must now submit a detailed manifest of their cargo 48 hours before entering the canal, MENA reported citing the Canal Authority's chairman. He added that penalties will be imposed on ships carrying explosives which are discovered before they cross the canal, and vessels discovered to be carrying "undeclared dangerous materials" inside the canal will be banned from further passage for 2 years. He disclosed that inspections have been carried out on all "suspect ships" and that no dangerous materials have been discovered. He affirmed that the inspections are not aimed at any particular ship or nationality.

Concerning these new measures, Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated in his Friday sermon broadcast by Tehran radio's Arabic service that Egypt "treacherously detained" two Iranian ships on the "pretext" of searching them. He stated that Egypt must be warned so it will not again take stands in the future that aid Western imperialism's exploitation of the "terrible and artificially provoked events" in the area. He also accused the "oppressors" of exploiting a "remark by an irresponsible person" that was "accidentally broadcast" by the radio.

Meanwhile, the French minesweepers off the Saudi coast ended their mission on 26 August after failing to find any mines, Paris radio noted.

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'Arafat Comments Upcoming PNC Meeting in Algiers

GF251458 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic
24 Aug 84 pp 1, 17

[Rashidah Ahmad report from Algiers]

[Excerpt] In statement to *AL-QABAS*, Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, said that the Arabs expect him to be the chairman of the organization, chairman of the revolution, a moderate, and a guerrilla, all at the same time. Abu 'Ammar added: "This indicates the extent of the Arab nations' confidence and hope in the Palestinian revolution."

'Arafat expects the meeting of the PNC will be successful. The meeting is scheduled to convene in Algiers on 15 September. It is viewed to be a conference of independent national decision-making. He affirmed that this date will not be changed. He said that the council includes all the factions which adhere to the independent national decisionmaking process. Abu 'Ammar considers this council as a final end to the aborted conspiracy against the Palestinian people and the PLO. 'Arafat explained that the formation of Islamic forces which will disengage the Iraqi and the Iranian warring forces will be arranged according to the decisions of the At-Ta'if and Casablanca meetings of the Islamic Good Offices Committee.

uf subhead Confirms Date

JN251732 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1615 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has said that the PNC will convene as scheduled, in accordance with the Algiers-Aden agreement in Algiers on 15 September. He said this date will not be changed.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS*, published yesterday, Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar said the PNC will include all factions committed to independent Palestinian national decisionmaking.

Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar added that convening the PNC means bringing down the curtain on the foiled plot against the Palestinian people and the PLO. Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar pointed out that the formation of the Islamic force to disengage the Iraqi and Iranian forces is in accordance with two decisions made by the Islamic Good Offices Committee at its meetings in At-Ta'if and Casablanca.

Yasir 'Arafat AL-MUSAWWAR Interview

JN261900 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1618 GMT 26 Aug 84

["Excerpts" of interview with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar, in Egyptian magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR*; published in its "recent" issue]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] It seems we will begin the dialogue with a famous dictum you frequently use in your speeches: that the PLO still constitutes the difficult factor in

the equation of conflict, especially after some sides attempted to split the Palestinian ranks and strike at Palestinian unity.

[Arafat] At the beginning, and before starting our dialogue, I would like to thank you and the brothers of *AL-MUSAWWAR* magazine for giving me this opportunity to speak to my kinfolk and beloved people in Egypt, whom our Palestinian people respect. We will never forget that Egypt offered scores of martyrs defending Palestine, its people, and our Arab nation. Regarding your question, I would like to reiterate that despite what has taken place the PLO, more than ever, constitutes the difficult factor in the equation of the Middle East conflict. Since the Zionist invasion in 1982 and consequent developments, the PLO has been subjected to many attempts to liquidate it, its role, and its major position in the Middle East equation. Despite the fierceness of these attempts, the PLO has emerged stronger and more determined to continue its role in leading the Palestinian people's struggle and expressing their rights, cause, and aspirations. In terms of the PLO's position in the world, its strength is increasing. Even in light of the situation that you are talking about, no retreat took place in international stands on the Palestine question and the PLO and its role. I believe that this is one of the most significant indicators of the PLO's strength, firmness, and position in the Middle East equation.

[Correspondent] How does the Israeli administration view the PLO and its position in terms of strengths and weaknesses, especially since you know that former war minister Sharon has made more than one statement in which he announced that the PLO's military structure had been destroyed.

[Arafat] If we look at the course of events there, we realize that the PLO is deeply and persistently embedded in Israeli life, its various leaderships, and trends, a fact that cannot be ignored. This refutes Sharon's claims, especially after the PLO and its Lebanese allies foiled the objectives of the operation named Peace for Galilee. The PLO was able to transfer the negative results of this war to the Zionist entity. This can be clearly understood through the fate of Menachem Begin and the results of the recent Israeli elections reflecting the stifling Israeli crisis, which is expected to continue.

[Correspondent] Thus, you still insist on your famous dictum?

[Arafat] I can say positively and optimistically that we are capable of confronting all challenges. We are also capable of entrenching our role in the Middle East equation. This always makes me say that I challenge any force to cancel the PLO's role or achieve a solution to the conflict in the region without recognizing the Palestinian people's inalienable rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state on their national soil under the PLO. This is the fact that stood fast in the face of strong winds. It will stand fast in the face of any future winds.

[Correspondent] How can this take place in light of the increasing plots against you?

[Arafat] Proceeding from the popular Palestinian and Arab rallying around our cause, revolution, and rights, we will strongly pursue our struggle despite the difficult circumstances. We

aspire to the day when our Arab, Islamic, and Palestinian flags will fly over liberated Jerusalem, God willing.

[Correspondent] However, we would like to ask you a special question about the real situation in the Palestinian arena: How do you describe the dissidents' current situation?

['Arafat] The current situation in the Palestinian arena is positive, and our position now is better than before, especially after we managed to organize our ranks and institutions following our second departure from Tripoli. Just as our steadfastness in the battles of Lebanon, Beirut, and Tripoli constitutes a great achievement, the reconstruction of our popular, media, and military institutions in such a very short period of time is also considered a historic achievement of which we are proud and which gives us confidence in the present and future.

Regarding the dissidents' situation, I can affirm that they no longer exist because they linked themselves with a plan to destroy the PLO and end our independent national decisionmaking. When we confronted and foiled this plan through the steadfastness of the fighters and the Palestinian people's rallying around the PLO and its independent decisionmaking, these dissidents were deprived of any justification to continue to exist. We, as well as events, have completely bypassed them.

[Correspondent] I met with Brother Abu 'Iyad [Salah Khalaf] and other Palestinian leaders yesterday and they assured me that the PNC will convene a meeting on 15 September. What are the topics on the agenda of the PNC's 17th session?

['Arafat] Yes, there is a specific decision to convene a meeting of the PNC on 15 September, and we are preparing for the forthcoming session. The sides responsible for drawing up the agenda are the PLO Executive Committee and the PNC office. A meeting will be held in the near future for this purpose, and I believe that the forthcoming session will be one of the greatest PNC sessions. Our Palestinian situation will be discussed on all levels. It will also define the broad lines and develop its struggle on all levels.

[Correspondent] I believe your recent visit to Algeria was to discuss this issue with Algerian officials. Did Algeria agree on convening the PNC session in Algeria in light of the current Palestinian situation?

['Arafat] I and my brothers in the Fatah Central Committee met with President Chadli Bendjedid and senior Algerian officials. Here, we must say that Algeria — people, government, and president — have spared no effort to support our Palestinian people's struggle under the PLO. They also adopted a principled position in supporting the PLO, especially during the difficult circumstances of the past 2 years. It is natural for us to continue our contacts with our Algerian brothers, who consider their independence incomplete so long as Palestine is under occupation. Our Algerian brothers do not set conditions, and we are in full agreement with them on the PNC issue as well as on other issues under discussion.

[Correspondent] If some members boycott the PNC session, what will the situation be?

['Arafat] Let us not talk about boycotts. We will move in a positive and serious manner to convene the PNC session with the required quorum.

[Correspondent] How do you personally view the Aden-Algeria agreement? Do you believe it succeeded in strengthening unity among the active groups in the Palestinian arena?

['Arafat] I believe that the Aden-Algeria agreement is a sound basis for strengthening the unity of the groups within the PLO's framework. Fatah spared no effort to achieve that agreement despite the many obstacles hampering the Palestinian dialogue during the past months. I can say that our PNC will be convened in good climate, and this is an important factor for promoting our struggle.

[Correspondent] Fatah Central Committee member Hani al-Hasan has disclosed that a formula for confederation will soon be signed between the Palestinian and Jordanian sides to give their relations new momentum. *AL-MUSAWWAR* would like to ask you where the framework of Jordanian-Palestinian relations stands.

['Arafat] As I have always described them, and as they really are, Palestinian-Jordanian relations are unique in terms of their historical roots and their strategic dimensions. These relations are between two fraternal peoples who abide by the Arabs' central cause, the Palestinian cause. We agree on matters of coordination, consultations, and cooperation. I would like to mention here that the question of the Palestinian Jordanian relationship is of utmost interest on the Palestinian level. There are provisions in the PNC resolutions defining the basis of this relationship and its dimensions. During my many meetings with King Husayn, I have sensed a Jordanian interest equal to ours with respect to the consolidation of this relationship. We also do not view our relations with Jordan in isolation from our Arab environment. We jointly seek to formulate an integrated Arab stand that would help us to achieve our joint objectives of eliminating Zionist occupation from Palestinian and Arab territories and attaining our Palestinian Arab people's national rights, including the right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of our independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

[Correspondent] Let us move to the most important point. You know that the Egyptian arena is currently experiencing positive developments. I believe Egypt's national and pan-Arab stands have become clear to everyone. My question is: How do you view relations with Egypt and what point have they reached?

['Arafat] I view Palestinian-Egyptian relations from the view of reciprocal offerings between the two fraternal peoples. The Egyptian people have given much to the Palestinian cause and to the struggle of the Palestinian people. No Palestinian can forget the thousands of Egyptian martyrs who fell on the land of Palestine and on Egyptian soil for the sake of Palestine. I and many sons of Palestine are proud we have fought on Egyptian soil in defense of Egyptian territory and Palestine. In my opinion, this is the secret for the close relations we have with our big sister and for the close bonds we have with it. The same applies to the Egyptians, who are closely linked to Jerusalem.

It is true that the political developments resulting from As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and the subsequent policies impaired the course of Egyptian-Palestinian relations. However, we were always confident these relations would return to their normal state following the elimination of the negative factors we faced. Egypt is not an ordinary country. Throughout history, at present, and in the future, Egypt has been and will continue to guarantee Arab steadfastness and to be a factor of strategic balance in this region. From this premise, as Palestinians and Arabs, we are dutybound to work sincerely and relentlessly so that great Egypt can again assume its natural role of leading the pan-Arab struggle against the enemies of our Arab nation on the basis of a firm commitment to the objectives of this nation, foremost being the termination of the Zionist occupation of Arab territories and the attainment of the Palestinian people's national rights, including their right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of the independent state.

We also must put on record our deep appreciation for the heroic Egyptian people's stand on the policy of normalization that we adopted with the Zionist enemy. It is illogical for normalization to take place while the Zionist enemy continues to occupy Palestinian, Syrian, and Lebanese territories, perpetrates acts of oppression and terrorism, continues to establish settlements, confiscates lands, and violates Islamic and Christian holy places.

The Zionist plans for Palestinian and Arab territory are no longer hidden from anybody, especially since these plans are completely supported by the United States. This situation calls for Egypt and for us to confront these ambitions and mobilize all Arab and Islamic resources for this confrontation. I feel optimistic over the future in light of the current positive, tangible signs.

[Correspondent] You welcomed the Soviet initiative announced recently. Do you believe this initiative can succeed? In other words, will the current Palestinian, Arab, and international situation allow it to succeed?

[Arafat] The recent Soviet initiative defined clear principles on which a just and comprehensive peace in the region must be based. We discussed this initiative in the Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee. We welcomed the initiative and announced our support for it. The Soviet initiative is important for two main reasons. First, it is an integrated, peaceful initiative proposed by a superpower friendly to our Palestinian people and our Arab nation. Second, through its definite provisions regarding the Palestinian cause and the PLO, this initiative responds to the international current which defined almost the same principles for a just solution to the Middle East problem and for an entry to peace. We must not forget that this initiative, together with the Arab peace plan adopted by the second Fes summit, calls for an international conference, which we presented as a formula suitable for achieving a solution. This formula was rejected by the U.S. Administration and the Zionist administration. This rejection shows that the United States and Israel continue to reject and resist all serious peace efforts regarding the Middle East problem and the Palestinian cause. The Americans and their agents still believe they can impose a de facto solution ignoring the will of our people and the peoples in the region. This U.S.-Zionist illusion, based on the policy of

repression and aggression—as it has been proved—will only lead to drowning the region in wars and destruction.

I would like to point out here a very important matter in my view. The Soviet initiative cannot be presented in a vacuum. The Arabs must support it, not only by announcing their welcome and support for it, but also by establishing a strong and cohesive Arab political and military stand that will enable us to present our conditions and just demands for peace. Any party will be able to obtain its demands if it depends on forces which can guarantee the credibility of these demands and prevent them from being ignored. As we welcome the Soviet initiative and the friendly and sincere Soviet stand, we, as Arabs, must assume our responsibilities which constitute our strong stand and make our friends support us.

'Arafat Comments on Red Sea Mining

JN241722 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1615 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has described the Red Sea mining as very dangerous and part of a major plan to besiege the Arab region by creating a constant state of tension. In a statement to the Egyptian magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR* published yesterday, Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar said: The Red Sea explosions coincide with tragic developments in the lives of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens in Palestine and Lebanon. These explosions also coincide with the continuing Iraq-Iran war. This confirms a decision has been made accompanied by serious attempts to implement it: The Arabs must not be allowed to catch their breath for a single moment.

'Arafat Meets GDR's Honecker in Bucharest

JN241715 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1615 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met in Bucharest yesterday with GDR Chairman Erich Honecker, who is attending Romania's national day celebrations. Our correspondent said that Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar and Comrade Honecker discussed the latest Arab, Palestinian, and international developments.

Meets Angolan President

JN251716 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1615 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with the Angolan president in Bucharest yesterday. They discussed bilateral relations, the joint struggle against Zionism and the policy of racial discrimination.

Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar also met with the heads of the PRC, SFRY, Polish, Iraqi, and SWAPO delegations during Romania's national day celebrations.

Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar also met with brother members of the PLO office in Bucharest. He briefed them on recent developments in the situation and on the Palestine question.

'Arafat To Visit Amman in 'Next Few Days'

JN260910 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic
26 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] Tunis — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat plans to pay a brief working visit to Amman in the next few days, during which he will meet with senior Jordanian officials to discuss the current Arab and international situation.

PLO Forces Await Dispatch to Iraq-Iran Border

PM241211 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic
23 Aug 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Awaiting Mediation, Palestinian Forces To Be Included in Islamic Force Between Iraq and Iran"]

[Text] Amman — ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that an important contact has taken place between Gambian President and Chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee Dawda Jwara, and ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti on the one hand and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on the other. They discussed the plan submitted by the PLO during the Islamic Good Offices Committee meeting last month calling for the deployment of Islamic forces on the borders between the Iraqi and Iranian armies.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has also learned that 'Arafat has contacted a number of Palestinian military commanders and instructed them to be ready to send Palestinian forces to the Iraqi-Iranian borders when the Islamic Good Offices Committee receives Iran's approval of a cease-fire in accordance with the committee's proposed plan. So far, Iran has not totally rejected the new peace plan submitted by the Gambian president.

Meanwhile, preparations are under way for the meeting of the seven-member Arab follow-up committee scheduled to be held in Baghdad next Sunday to discuss the latest developments and possibilities on the Iraqi-Iranian front as well as results of international contacts. It was confirmed yesterday that this meeting will be held at foreign minister level because of its special importance in view of the fact that a number of senior Arab officials and an Iranian official are at present in Romania which, according to some reports, is mediating to settle the Iraq-Iran conflict.

JORDAN TIMES Views PLO Dialogue Efforts

JN250840 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
25 Aug 84 pp 1, 3

[By Lamis K. Andoni]

[Text] Amman — The deputy military commander of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Khalil al-Wazir, on Thursday appealed to dissident Palestinian factions to join in a

comprehensive Palestinian dialogue, while a dissident leader demanded the ouster of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat as the basis of such a dialogue.

In a statement circulated by the PLO main office here, Mr al-Wazir (Abu Jihad) urged four dissident factions, which are grouped in a "National Alliance," to abandon "its negative attitude and to join an inter-factional Palestinian dialogue" which is scheduled to take place in the beginning of September. Mr al-Wazir, who is also a member of the Central Committee of Fatah, the mainstream commando organisation with the PLO, said that "we (Fatah) are ready to listen to their complaints with open hearts and make a fresh start"

The Fatah leader's statement came in response to a declaration by the "National Alliance" last week that the four factions will boycott the coming session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) next September. In his statement, Mr al-Wazir said that the boycott will not stop the PNC from convening but that "we are willing to give a chance to the 'National Alliance' to join in the dialogue before the PNC convenes."

A leader of the "National Alliance", however, told the JORDAN TIMES that this group's decision to boycott the PNC was prompted by last week's Algiers announcement by Fatah and a left-wing "Democratic Alliance" to convene the PNC in September "even though a comprehensive organisational and political agreement has not been reached yet."

In a telephone interview with the JORDAN TIMES from Damascus, Dr Samir Ghawshah, general secretary of the Popular Struggle Front, one of the four factions that form the "National Alliance," also expressed his view that declaring a date for the PNC is not only a violation of the PLO legislation but would lead to a "dangerous schism" within the PLO if a PNC session was not preceded by a comprehensive organisational agreement among all factions.

A political and organisational agreement between Fatah and the "Democratic Alliance", which groups the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the Palestinian Communist Party and the Palestine Liberation Front, was ratified in Algiers last July. But the "National Alliance", which groups the PFLP General Command, rebels within the Fatah movement and the Syrian-backed As-Sa'iqah group, has so far rejected the agreement which supposedly curtails some of the powers enjoyed by Mr 'Arafat, enhances a collective leadership of the PLO and voices an outright rejection of all American-sponsored peace plans for the Middle East.

"The Aden agreement has some positive points but we do not think it can serve as a good basis for a comprehensive Palestinian dialogue," Dr Ghawshah said. "The basic problem", which Dr. Ghawshah described as the "deviationist and capitulatory" line led by Mr 'Arafat, "was not radically tackled in the Aden agreement."

Dr. Ghawshah accused the "Democratic Alliance" of "rushing into signing an agreement" with Fatah's Central Committee.

"Unfortunately, the Democratic Alliance has succumbed to blackmail by the Central Committee," he contended.

Dr. Ghawshah was apparently hinting at Fatah's threat last June to quit the talks in Aden if the Democratic Alliance did not agree to fix a tentative date for the PNC.

"Blackmail" happened to be the same word used in Mr al-Wazir's statement to describe the stance of the "National Alliance". In his statement Mr al-Wazir warned against any attempt of "blackmail" by the "National Alliance" to delay the convening of the PNC.

In Dr Ghawshah's view, the "Democratic Alliance" should have reached a common platform with the "National Alliance" before "bargaining" with Fatah.

"If both the Democratic and National Alliances reached an agreement, the Democratic Alliance would have been able to gain more concessions from Fatah," he said.

According to a document obtained by the *JORDAN TIMES* dated July 22, the "National Alliance" called on the "Democratic Alliance" and all Palestinian personalities and institutions "to achieve a national consensus to bring down 'Arafat' and what it called his "Capitulatory line".

The document, which is actually a letter sent by the "National Alliance" to PNC Chairman Khalid al-Fahum, implies that the "National Alliance" is trying to secure a quorum to convene the various PLO institutions, a move which was interpreted to be an attempt to form a substitute organisation for the PLO.

In the interview with the *JORDAN TIMES* Dr Ghawshah confirmed what was said in the document about Mr 'Arafat, but when asked if that meant a struggle against the Central Committee of Fatah as well, Dr. Ghawshah said that his alliance has two conditions for opening a dialogue with Fatah.

The first condition is that the Fatah Central Committee should declare a political condemnation of Mr 'Arafat's visit to Cairo last December and consequently his political line.

The second condition, Dr. Ghawshah said, is Fatah's acceptance to resolve "the crisis" within Fatah on the basis of reforms as a prelude to the reunification of the movement. The second condition put by the "National Alliance" regarding the crisis within Fatah has been rejected by Fatah from the beginning.

According to Dr Ghawshah the Fatah crisis should be solved on the basis of a report prepared by an 18-member committee which emanated from the PLO Central Council last August. The 18-member team which mediated between Mr 'Arafat on one hand and Syria and the rebels on the other hand, came out with a plan to effect reforms within Fatah, set up a provisional leadership for the Fatah movement to take charge until a new Fatah general congress is convened where reforms and changes could be discussed and endorsed. [sentence as published] The Central Committee, however, saw the plan as an attempt to create a new leadership for Fatah and hence refused it.

In essence, the second condition put by the "National Alliance" seems to be an attempt to bring the Fatah Central Committee face to face with demands put up by the Fatah rebels at the beginning of the PLO crisis in May 1983.

Fatah officials in Amman who were contacted by the *JORDAN TIMES* refused to reply to the charges made by Mr Ghawshah. "Until now we have shown patience and goodwill, and the concessions we have made to reach the Aden agreement prove our true desire for reform and for the reunification of the PLO," they said.

Palestinian observers in Amman expect that the position of the "National Alliance" is heavily contingent on the Syrian stance and on the current Saudi, Algerian, South Yemeni and Soviet efforts to reconcile Fatah and the Syrians before the convening of the PNC.

Khalil Al-Wazir on Syrian-Algerian Talks

JN261010 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 26 Aug 84 pp 1, 24

[Nabil 'Amr dispatch]

[Excerpt] Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has said that the next 48 hours will give a clearer picture of the future of Palestinian-Syrian relations after Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad concludes his current visit to Algiers.

Abu Jihad refused to speculate on the outcome of the Syrian-Algerian talks. However, he affirmed that the issue of Palestinian-Syrian relations will be discussed between Presidents al-Asad and Chadli Bendjedid.

He said: We must wait, 48 hours at the latest, for what the Algerian brothers will tell us.

PLO Official on PLO Return to Lebanon

GF270915 Doha QNA in Arabic 0745 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 Aug (QNA) — A Palestinian official has dismissed sporadic reports being disseminated by certain information media on a secret and public Palestinian return to Lebanon.

In a statement carried in today's issue of the UAE newspaper *AL-WAHDAH*, Shafiq al-Hut, director of the PLO office in Beirut, noted these rumors are part of a new plan designed to destabilize the relationship between the Palestinian and the Lebanese peoples with the aim of creating discord and differences and raising personal affairs to the level of national matters. He added that the return of the Palestinians to Lebanon would take place through an understanding between the Palestinian leadership on one hand and Syria and the Lebanese National Movement on the other in order to forge further cohesion and solidarity against the Zionist occupation of Southern Lebanon.

The Palestinian official referred to contacts currently underway with the Lebanese Government to reopen the PLO office in Beirut, but he said that the reopening of the office is associated with organizing the Palestinian conditions and having the Lebanese Government turn a blind eye to any obstacles impeding that move.

Concluding his statement he asserted that settling all the issues between the PLO and the Lebanese Government can be hammered out through understanding. He referred to the promise of the Lebanese government to facilitate matters dealing with the Palestinians in Lebanon and relating to travel documents given to Palestinians.

Democratic Alliance Denounces National Alliance

*JN251831 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1631 GMT 25 Aug 84*

[Text] In a statement issued today, the Democratic Alliance, made up of the PFLP, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], the Palestinian Liberation Front [PLF], and the Palestinian Communist Party [PCP], denounced the stand of the so-called National Alliance toward the Aden agreement and the Palestinian dialogue. The National Alliance made this statement at a news conference in Damascus last week.

In its statement the Democratic Alliance stressed that the stands of the so-called National Alliance confirm this alliance's insistence on its secessionist course and continuous attempts to shatter the unity of the Palestinian revolution and the PLO. The statement added that this alliance rejects a comprehensive national dialogue. It also rejects the reactivation of the PLO's institutions, including the PNC. It seeks to dictate its conditions and its own stand, even if the result is the destruction of the Palestinian national unity movement, its achievements and role as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The Democratic Alliance statement denounced the threats by the so-called National Alliance to resort to weapons and self-destruction which it adopted a year ago. The statement pointed out that the so-called National Alliance attempts to impose itself as a trustee on the Palestinian resistance's presence in Lebanon and Syria. It threatens all nationalist factions that reject its erroneous course, depriving them of their positions in these two arenas.

The statement continued: The firm stands defended by the so-called National Alliance during its news conference and the threats accompanying those stands are basically directed against our Democratic Alliance. These stands sincerely express the stifling political impasse the parties to the Democratic Alliance have reached as a result of their insistence on their erroneous secessionist course.

It seems that the sweeping and wide support for the Algiers-Aden agreement by the masses of our Palestinian people inside the occupied territories and all of our friends and allies on the Arab and international levels has made the parties to the

National Alliance go out of their minds. We in the Democratic Alliance want to confirm that threatening us is useless. Moreover, it will not change our stands and convictions. Our commitment to the Algiers-Aden agreement, including the article on the reactivation of the PLO's legitimate institutions, particularly the PNC, has always been and still is a firm and entrenched commitment.

The statement said that the Democratic Alliance calls on the National Alliance to participate in the comprehensive national dialogue despite the improper tone it used regarding dialogue among nationalist forces. The statement said: The comprehensive national dialogue for restoring the PLO's unity on the basis of the program hostile to imperialism and Zionism is the only responsible stand giving priority to our people's national interests over any others.

Concluding its statement, the Democratic Alliance stressed that the Algiers-Aden agreement has constituted and constitutes the proper basis for restoring the PLO's unity within a framework hostile to imperialism and Zionism. Consequently, this agreement represents a political and organizational basis for uniting the Palestinian arena in the face of the enemy's plans and the dangers posed to the Palestine question. As a representative of basic Palestinian factions, the Democratic Alliance will continue to be a sincere advocate of a comprehensive national dialogue guaranteeing the restoration of PLO unity and the safeguarding of its national course and independence.

[Signed] The DFLP, the PFLP, the PLF, the PLP.

Fatah Dissident Seeks Return to Movement

*GF262014 Riyadh AR-RIYADH in Arabic
25 Aug 84 p 1*

[Al-Husayn ibn Al-Hajj Nasr and Samir Sa'id ad-Din dispatch from Tunis]

[Excerpt] *AR-RIYADH* has learned that Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], one of the dissidents in the Fatah movement, has sent a message to Mr Yasir 'Arafat requesting to return to the Fatah movement. In his message, Abu Salih expressed his readiness to appear before a court. The message was delivered to Mr 'Arafat by Mr Yasir 'Abd ar-Rabbuh. It is worth mentioning that Abu Salih is in charge of the political wing of the dissidents in Fatah, while Abu Musa heads the military wing of the movement.

In the meantime, Mr Salih Ri'fat, DFLP representative to the Palestinian dialogue committee, told *AR-RIYADH* a meeting will be held at the beginning of next month between Fatah's Central Committee and the Democratic Alliance to review the results of the moves of the five parties who signed the Algiers-Aden agreement on the Palestinian and Arab levels and on the level of the friendly countries, and to discuss the measures and practical arrangements for convening the PNC according to the Aden-Algiers agreement.

Saudi Source: Search for Mines Nearly Complete
LD241917 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1750 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Aug (SPA) — An official source at the Ministry of Defense and Aviation stated that the Saudi Royal Navy has almost completed a survey of Saudi territorial waters, sea routes used by commercial ships and ships carrying pilgrims, and entrances to Saudi ports on the Red Sea in search of the mines that caused the breakdown [as received] of many commercial ships working in the Red Sea. He said that a working team was formed at the King Faysal Naval Base in Al-Gharbiyyah to carry out the sea survey operations, remove any mines found, and coordinate minesweeping operations between Saudi Royal Navy forces and friendly naval units from France and the United States taking part in the Red Sea mine clearing operation. He said that two French minesweepers and a U.S. ship, the *La Salle*, which carries a number of helicopters equipped with modern electronic devices for searching for mines and strange objects, took part in the sea survey.

The source said that the survey of Saudi territorial waters has, thank God, shown our waters to be free of mines and that the naval forces responded to a number of reports submitted by ships on the appearance of suspicious objects and dispatched naval vessels and helicopters to examine these and take the necessary measures to render them ineffective. However, none of these reports led to the discovery of mines, and most of the notifications were about pieces of metal disposed of by ships.

The source concluded by saying that these intensive efforts came as implementation of the instructions given by the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, his highness the faithful crown prince, and his highness the second deputy prime minister on the need to work to secure sea lanes for ships carrying pilgrims and confirming our naval forces' role in exercising their noble duty to defend the sacred places of Islam and the homeland's waters and contribute to facilitating the arrival of pilgrims in the holy lands.

No Mines Found

LD261449 Paris Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] The two French minesweepers placed by France at the disposal of Saudi Arabia have ended their mission. They are expected to return to Toulon in the next few days. The two French vessels did not find any mines in Saudi waters.

GULF AFFAIRS

AFP: Helicopters Rescue Entire Crew of Amethyst
NC241251 Paris AFP in English 1249 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Manama, Aug 24 (AFP) — Helicopters today rescued the entire crew of the 31,280-ton Cypriot tanker *Amethyst*, which caught fire after being hit by a missile south of Iran's Khark Island oil terminal, Kuwaiti shipping sources said here. The crew was taken off at noon (0900 GMT). The vessel was still ablaze some 160 kms (100 miles) south of Khark Island, the sources said.

The fully-loaded *Amethyst* was hit at 9:30 am (0630 GMT) and radioed a distress signal "serious fire on board." Earlier today a military spokesman in Baghdad announced that Iraqi aircraft had attacked and hit an "important naval objective" south of Khark Island, the Iraqi news agency INA said in a report monitored here. The attack was the second reported Iraqi operation against shipping in the Gulf within 24 hours. Maritime sources in Bahrain said that a supply ship of unknown nationality was hit south of Khark Island yesterday morning.

Tanker Ordered to Lavan

GF260500 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 25 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] The Iranians have ordered salvage tugs towing the stricken tanker *Amethyst* to take it to an island off the coast of Iran, according to Gulf shipping sources. The salvagemen were told to haul the *Amethyst* to the island of Lavan "at Iran's insistence." Normally tankers are towed to a point some 70 miles off the coast of Bahrain where their cargos are off-loaded. But this time the Iranians are believed to have told the salvagemen to keep the *Amethyst* in Iranian waters.

Despite the fact that the salvage operation will be taking place a long way from the crews' normal base of operations, a spokesman for Smit International and Selco said he was confident that it could be successfully carried out. And he was full of praise for rescue operations in which the Iranians picked up most of the survivors. Salvagemen from Bahrain had extinguished the blaze on board the Cypriot tanker early yesterday after keeping the vessel's bows into the wind in a bid to stop the flames from restarting. Thirty-three men were rescued after the tanker was hit by an Iraqi Exocet missile, but a Filipino crewman was still missing last night.

Panamanian Tanker Attacked East of Qatar

NC271150 Athens Domestic Service in Greek 1135 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] The 21,000-ton Panamanian tanker *Cleo I*, which was hit in the Persian Gulf today by a missile from an aircraft, belongs to the same company as the Cypriot tanker *Amethyst*, which was hit last Friday [24 August] by an Iraqi aircraft, AFP reports. The *Cleo I* was hit by a missile at 1000 today while approximately 70 miles east of Qatar. According to available information, the tanker did not sustain serious damage. A fire broke out but was put under control. The tanker is now heading for Doha at reduced speed but under her own power. No casualties were reported. At least one rescue ship from those escorting the *Amethyst* is now sailing toward the *Cleo I* to render assistance.

According to the same information, the *Cleo I* had sailed from Colombo, Sri Lanka, to load oil at the Saudi port of Ra's Tannura. The attack against the *Cleo I* was in the same area of the Persian Gulf where at least four ships were attacked by aircraft believed to have been Iranian.

BAHRAIN

Budget Surplus Reported for 1983

GF250515 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English
25 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] Bahrain was able to tide over last year's difficult economic conditions brought by the fall in oil prices and demand which in turn affected state's revenues during 1983. According to the Bahrain Monetary Agency annual report published yesterday the country's balance of payments had recorded a surplus of BD46.4 million in 1983, despite a fall in the trade balance during the same period.

According to a despatch from the KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY, the rate of inflation also dropped from six per cent in 1982 to 3.5 per cent last year in view of government rationalised spending and the fall in Bahraini dinar deposit rates. However, compared to the 1982 figure of BD64.8 million last year's surplus in the payments balance registered a drop to BD46.4 million due to a deficit of BD53.8 million on the balance of trade for 1983 as well as a drop in state revenue from oil exports by 17.8 per cent and by 4.6 per cent in non-oil exports.

KUWAIT

Defense Minister on Gulf Events, Deal With USSR

JN241905 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT
24 Aug 84

[Ali Hashim dispatch from Kuwait]

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs and information, has stated that he hopes the Riyadh summit will be held on schedule unless new circumstances develop that would postpone it, because events in the Arab homeland are moving fast and nobody knows what might happen tomorrow. In an exclusive statement to both Radio Monte Carlo and the magazine *AN-NAHAR AL-ARABI WA AD-DUWALI*, Shaykh Sabah said that he has worked and will always work to overcome inter-Arab differences. He said that differences would end if they are dealt with sincerely, wisely, and without personal whims.

On the Gulf war, Sabah said that efforts are continuing to end it because it harms everybody. He said: Iraq welcomes an end to this war and we have not lost hope that Iranian officials will consider the interests of their people first.

He said: We hope that wise and sincere people will act and make decisions on this issue.

On the UN Security Council resolution condemning Iran for its attack on Gulf tankers, Sabah said that the resolution reduced the flames of the war, and being an international resolution, it should be respected in the hope that it will help bring the views of both sides closer.

On the U.S. maneuvers to train special forces for a war in the Gulf, Sabah said: We have nothing to do with these maneuvers or with the rumors concerning them. We denounce and will not recognize any foreign intervention in our area. We are against both direct and indirect intervention, be it from the East or from the West. The only intervention we accept is mediation for ending the Gulf war provided both of the warring sides approve of it.

On the arms deal with the USSR, he said: Our move to buy weapons from the USSR is a friendly move that serves the interest of both Kuwait and the USSR. There is no coordination of any kind with the GCC states on this subject because the deal is a bilateral one between us and the USSR.

On the possible need for Soviet experts to train the Kuwaitis on these weapons, he said: I buy weapons so that I can use them myself. I may get trained on these weapons by the seller for a certain period of time, but I will not let the trainer use them forever. After all, who said that I buy weapons along with trainers? How can I buy a weapon without knowing how to use it? We are not concerned about tendentious reports that cast doubt on everything.

Sabah welcomed the current effort to put the Lebanese house in order and said: We regard this as a step in the right direction. It is hoped that the sincere Lebanese officials will overcome all the obstacles and difficulties they may encounter.

He said: If the Lebanese people speak with one voice, the Israeli occupation will end whether through diplomatic means or through resistance. He said that the GCC supports Lebanon and its progress. He promised that the Kuwaiti diplomatic mission will return to Beirut at the proper time.

On the forthcoming GCC summit in Kuwait, Sabah said it will deal with many issues such as the nucleus of comprehensive unity, particularly in the economic field. He said the summit will discuss the Gulf war and Arab differences. He praised the GCC achievements particularly since it has realized great successes in the cultural, economic, political, and military spheres. He hoped the GCC will be the firmest brick in the structure of comprehensive Arab unity.

On the effect of the economic crises on the Kuwaiti economy, particularly the oil crisis and the Al-Manakh stock exchange crisis, he said: This has affected Kuwait, but I assure you that Kuwait's economy is sound and firm.

Official Explains Trade Imbalance With USSR

LD261243 Kuwait KUNA in English 1041 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow, Aug 26 (KUNA) — Several Soviet officials have expressed dissatisfaction with the level of trade between the Soviet Union and Kuwait, it was learnt here Sunday. During the fifth joint meeting of the Arab Soviet chambers of commerce and industry, held recently here, the Soviet officials affirmed that there were no intensive contacts between the Soviet commercial attache in the Gulf region and the Kuwaiti Chamber of Commerce and Industry. They indicated that the Soviet commercial attache did not make any field visits to Kuwait's markets.

In response to the Soviet comments chairman of the Kuwaiti Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 'Abd al-'Aziz as-Saqr said Kuwait's market was free and open to exports from more than 140 countries. Kuwait mainly exports oil and petrochemicals to several countries, including the Soviet Union, As-Saqr pointed out. He expressed Kuwait's wish to strengthen trade exchange with the Soviet Union and expand its volume.

As-Saqr said the Soviet Union is responsible for the weakness in trade, economic and agricultural cooperation between the two countries, adding that Kuwait imports large quantities of consumer goods from China and socialist countries, including Yugoslavia, Hungary, Bulgaria and Poland. He called the Soviet Union to intensify its future efforts to boost and strengthen cooperation between the two countries and increase its exports to the Arab Gulf region, particularly Kuwait.

He indicated that the Soviet Union did not hold any commercial exhibition in Kuwait or any other Gulf state. As-Saqr added that the rare visits of Soviet economic delegations to the Gulf has made Kuwaiti and Gulf merchants unacquainted with Soviet imports.

On the other hand, the Soviet officials affirmed that they will make efforts to overcome present difficulties obstructing development of all-round economic, agricultural and trade cooperation between Kuwait and the Soviet Union.

Foreign Minister Leaves for Baghdad Meeting

LD251102 Kuwait KUNA in English 1006 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 25 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti deputy premier, foreign and information minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah and the accompanying delegation left here Saturday for Baghdad to participate in the meeting of the Arab League seven-man committee assigned to follow up efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. The delegation groups acting director of the Minister's Office Sulayman Murjan, Abdallah as-Sanoussi from the Protocol Department and Muhammad as-Salal from the Political Department.

Shaykh Sabah was seen off at the airport by Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Rashid ar-Rashid, Information Ministry Undersecretary Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad as-Sabah and Iraqi ambassador to Kuwait 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Umar Ghani.

Shaykh Sabah stated prior to his departure that he is not carrying a written message, "but my effort in Baghdad is a message to all my Iraqi brothers".

He underlined that the committee will be meeting for the third time and added, "We will prepare for an Arab summit conference to discuss the Iraqi-Iranian war." He said the seven-man committee is formed by the Arab League and it has no links with the Nonaligned Movement's committee, which is assigned to seek an end to the Gulf war.

Commenting on the Lebanese developments, Shaykh Sabah said, "We are optimistic over the situation in Lebanon," adding that the Lebanese people are the ones who could solve the problem of

their country. Shaykh Sabah expressed Kuwait's support to Lebanon's complaint to be lodged with the United Nations Security Council on Israeli atrocious practices in occupied southern Lebanon.

On the Moroccan-Libyan unity, the Kuwaiti minister said, "We support every arab unity" and hoped that it will materialize. "We hope the whole of the Arab world would be united," he concluded.

Foreign Minister Returns

LD270910 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0849 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 27 Aug (KUNA) — The deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs and minister of information, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, and the delegation accompanying him returned from Baghdad this morning after participating in the meetings of the Arab seven-man Committee which is commissioned to follow up the efforts to stop the Iraq-Iran war. In a statement to KUNA, Shaykh Sabah said: "We participated in the third meeting of the Arab follow-up committee commissioned to investigate the developments of the Iraq-Iran war which was held in Baghdad. We made a comprehensive survey of the previous stage of the efforts of the committee in contacting some countries to concentrate the international efforts to stop the Iraq-Iran war."

Foreign Ministry Official Meets U.S. Charge

LD251625 Kuwait KUNA in English 1505 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 25 (KUNA) — The Foreign Ministry's undersecretary, Rashid ar-Rashid, met Saturday with the U.S. charge d'affaires here, Robert Holliday. During the meeting, both sides discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern.

'General Boycott' of U.S., Western Europe Urged

LD261002 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait 26 Aug (KUNA) — Kuwaiti *AR-RAY AL-AMM* today called for the adoption of more active and lively Arab policy and stances, the foremost of which is the declaration of a general boycott of everything American and everything Western European. In the course of its comment on the situation in the Arab region, it expressed its conviction that the present situation in the region requires much more than meetings and gatherings, pointing to the meetings of the Arab seven-man committee which will meet in Baghdad today to discuss the latest developments in the Iraqi-Iran war and the efforts made to stop it.

The paper defined a number of things to confront the situation which is becoming more complicated with the presence of the American aircraft carriers, minesweepers, and multinational ships in the Arab territorial waters and in the areas close to our shores and coasts.

It said what is required at this critical stage is that we should have clear vision and sufficient courage to determine the practical formulas by means of which we could put an end to the West's

long arm which seeks to hold us by the neck and strangle us to safeguard its concessions and its supremacy in exhausting our resources and wealth and to reap profits and financial rewards. It added that it is also necessary to sever the American arm and to cause harm to the manufacturers of the weapons of death and destruction who made our homelands markets for their destructive trade, to boycott all kinds of American and European goods and products and to close the door to their economy so that we would not remain mere warehouses for these goods and products.

In conclusion *AR-RAY AL-AMM* urged that this experiment be waged without any hesitation adding: "We shall discover its positive character after just 4 months."

QATAR

Indian Minister of State Arrives in Doha

GF260655 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0535 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Doha, 25 Aug (WAKH) — Indian Minister of State for External Affairs A.A. Rahim arrived in Doha tonight on a 3-day visit to Qatar. The visit is at the invitation of Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani. During the visit, the Indian minister will hold talks with a number of Qatari officials on ways to bolster bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern.

Amir Receives Indian Official

GF261314 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1205 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Doha, 26 Aug (WAKH) — Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani received here today A.A. Rahim, Indian minister of state for external affairs, currently visiting Doha. The Indian minister briefed his highness the amir, who is the chairman of the current session of the GCC Supreme Council, on the efforts being exerted by India, which is chairing the current session of the Nonaligned Movement, toward ending the Iraq-Iran war. His highness the amir of Qatar hailed the efforts being exerted by Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in this regard. Bilateral relations in light of the agreements signed by the two countries this year were reviewed during the meeting which was attended by Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs.

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Minister Departs for Baghdad Meeting

LD251455 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1425 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda 25 Aug (SPA) — His Royal Highness Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz left here this afternoon for Baghdad to participate in the third meeting of the Arab seven-member committee discussing the Iraqi-Iranian war. The committee begins work tomorrow. These meetings, which will be attended by Arab League Secretary General Klibi, will discuss the latest developments in the Arab Gulf, the Iraqi-Iranian war, and efforts being made to end the war.

Foreign Minister Returns

LD262144 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Excerpt] His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs, returned to Jidda this evening from Baghdad where he had attended meetings of the Arab Ministerial Committee to follow up developments in the Iraq-Iran war. The committee ended its meetings this evening in Baghdad after discussing the items on its agenda and assessing the political situation. The committee also reviewed the efforts which were made during the past period.

Jordan Civil Defense Chief Arrives

LD242159 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2030 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Jidda 24 Aug (SPA) — Major General Khalid al-Trannah, director general of civil defense in Jordan, and the delegation accompanying him arrived this evening in Jidda on an official visit of several days.

Islamic Affairs Minister Meets With Iraqi Counterpart

LD262051 Riyadh SPA in English 1920 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda, Aug 26, SPA — Saudi Islamic Endowments and Pilgrimage Affairs Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Wasi conferred here today with Iraqi Endowments Minister 'Abdallah Fadil 'Abbas on cooperation in the field of Islamic affairs and endowments. Al-Wasi briefed the visiting minister on the Kingdom's efforts to ease the performance of pilgrimage by pilgrims. For his part, the Iraqi minister expressed his country's appreciation for the Kingdom's excellent services for the pilgrims. The meeting was attended by Iraqi ambassador to the Kingdom 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin.

Statement on Attack, Visas by Embassy in Lebanon

LD250722 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0650 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda, 25 Aug (SPA) — The following is a statement issued by the Embassy of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom in Lebanon:

At 1620 yesterday, Friday, 24 August, armed demonstrators stormed the walls of the consular section of the Saudi Arabian Embassy at Hayy al-Manarah quarter in West Beirut, played havoc with the contents of the offices and then set fire to the building causing huge material losses, on the grounds that the Kingdom has been making rigorous examination of the identities of people seeking visas for the pilgrimage.

While announcing the occurrence of this sinful aggression by the demonstrations, the Saudi Arabian Kingdom strongly denounces this barbaric action which it considers a violation of diplomatic immunity and international tradition.

In fact, out of its sincere desire to facilitate travel for people wishing to perform the pilgrimage and in spite of the security conditions, the government of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz had sent back the officials dealing with consular matters,

from among the Saudi diplomatic mission's staff, armed with his majesty the king's directives to exert all efforts and adopt all possible measures to insure the comfort of the pilgrims. But the forces of evil always use the flimsiest of pretexts to cover up their crimes. However, these acts will not affect at all the sound line pursued by the Saudi Arabian Kingdom's policy in the face of such acts.

AR-RIYAD Reports New U.S. Mideast Plan

GF261320 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 25 Aug 84 p 1

[Al-Husayn ibn al-Hajj Nasr dispatch from Tunis]

[Text] *AR-RIYAD* has learned from a well informed source that a new U.S. peace settlement plan is on its way to the Middle East region. The plan consists of 12 articles of which one deals with the return of 100,000 Palestinian refugees to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip while another article concerns the return of another 100,000 to the territories which have been occupied since 1948.

A third point deals with rendering the West Bank and Gaza Strip as demilitarized zones, while a fourth point grants Jordan facilities in the port of Haifa in northern occupied Palestine. A fifth point concerns the formation of a Jordanian-Israeli-U.S. committee to demarcate the so-called (Israel's borders) and to freeze the construction of Israeli settlements. *AR-RIYAD* also has learned that contacts are now taking place between a number of moderate Eastern [as published] countries and the United States over this matter.

Shippers Warned on Dumping of 'Harmful Substances'

LD261033 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0838 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda, 26 (Aug) SPA — The meteorological and Environmental Protection Corporation has urged all shipowners, operators, captains, and agents to make sure that there is no oil or oil mixture, or any harmful substance leaking from their ships. The corporation pointed out that the Kingdom would hold any ship or establishment causing leakage or effusion in the Kingdom's territorial waters responsible for the cost of removing, cleansing, and getting rid of any harm that has resulted from them. It stressed that the Kingdom had the right to impound any ship which has violated these instructions until removal and cleansing are completed satisfactorily and the existence of adequate securities for the removal is ascertained.

The corporation urged all shipping to adhere to the principles and instruction of the Kingdom's seaports in accordance with the environmental standards issued in 1402 AH which specified the monthly limits of permitted levels of disposal in (?our) territorial waters of oil and grease at 8 milligrams per litre providing that this does not exceed 15 milligrams per litre at any single disposal. The meteorological and environmental protection corporation explained that all shipping was obliged to abide by the national scheme for combating pollution caused by oil and other harmful substances, which was approved by the coordinating committee for the protection of the environment.

'UKAZ Interviews Islamic Radio Chairman

GF261838 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 25 Aug 84 p 14

[Interview with Ahmad Farraj, secretary general of the organization of Islamic Radio Stations, by correspondents Hasan al-Banna and Ibrahim Fatah Allah — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Banna, Fatah Allah] Tell us about the organization's achievements during its 9 years of activity in the various fields of Islamic media.

[Farraj] The general secretariat of the organization began its activities in 1977, by exchanging radio programs with member countries, as costs were lower and they were easy to produce. In addition, this would bring the ideological and cultural ideas of member countries closer together. During the first year, the radio program exchange did not exceed 250 broadcast hours and 200 television hours. In the third year alone the number of broadcast hours rose to 580, after the setting up of a filing library and mutual exchange among the member countries. Today, the volume of the exchange of broadcast hours has reached 1,700, in addition to 2,100 television hours, a big part of which were produced with the help of Saudi television. Kuwait has actively contributed to developing and activating the television programs of the organization.

[Al-Banna, Fatah Allah] Is there any coordination between the organization and the radio stations of the Islamic countries concerning adherence to the broadcasting of mutual programs?

[Farraj] Yes, there is coordination. For example, the Jerusalem committee chaired by King Hasan II has stated that the 18th of Sh'ban [a lunar Hijrah month] should be dedicated to Jerusalem day. It also recommended that the Friday prayers speech on that day in all the mosques of the Islamic countries should be on the Jerusalem day issue. As a result of an initiative by the general secretariat and in coordination with Kuwaiti Radio, a radio program about Jerusalem was produced and was broadcast over all the radio stations of the Islamic countries on the same day.

UAE

Hijacked Indian Airliner Lands in Dubai

Sikh Militants Commandeer Plane

BK250534 Hong Kong AFP in English 0526 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Manama, Aug 25 (AFP) — The Indian Airlines Boeing 737 hijacked yesterday by Sikh militants is still at Dubai Airport, the director of Air India in Dubai told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. The aircraft has not been refuelled and the passengers are still aboard the aircraft, he said. Earlier, Radio Pakistan, in a broadcast monitored in New Delhi, reported that the plane had left the United Arab Emirates for an unknown destination in Europe. The plane, with 79 passengers and six crew believed to [be] on board, landed at Dubai Airport shortly after midnight.

It was taken over by Sikh militants on a domestic flight in India yesterday. It was commandeered to Pakistan, and made stops in Lahore and Karachi. The hijackers told a television reporter in

Karachi that they wanted to fly around the world to publicise alleged atrocities committed against Sikhs held in Indian prisons.

Defense Minister Heads Negotiations

GF250930 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Dubai, 25 Aug (WAKH) — Dubai International Airport sources reported that the plane is still at the airport and that negotiations with the hijackers are still underway. WAM reported that the hijackers demanded that the plane be refuelled at 0830 Emirates local time. Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid, UAE defense minister and chief of the police and public security in Dubai is currently holding negotiations with the plane hijackers to release the passengers and the crew.

Sources at the Indian Airlines offices in Dubai reported that the plane landed in Dubai Airport at 0435 Emirates time this morning with 92 passengers on board and a crew of six. An Indian news agency had reported from New Delhi that the hijackers agreed to release all the passengers if the six crew members would remain hostages and the plane given fuel to depart for an unknown destination.

Hijackers Seeking U.S. Asylum

GF251730 Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The negotiations conducted and intensive efforts exerted by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum, minister of defense and commander in chief of the Dubai security forces and police, have resulted in the surrender of the hijackers of the Indian passenger aircraft at Dubai International Airport today and the release of all the aircraft's passengers. WAM has learned that the hijackers have been granted political asylum in the UAE for 1 week while awaiting the result of their request for political asylum in the United States. WAM reported that all the passengers disembarked from the aircraft and went to the airport's transit lounge where they received the necessary medical care.

Colonel Dahi Khalfan, commander of the Dubai police, said that the aircraft's seven hijackers have asked for political asylum in the United States and that the competent authorities have begun to interrogate them. Colonel Khalfan said that the UAE stand in this regard is purely humanitarian.

Government Denies Giving Asylum

GF261015 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The UAE has denied that it has granted temporary political asylum to the hijackers of the Indian passenger aircraft who surrendered to the UAE authorities last night. WAM reported that the Sikh air pirates asked for political asylum to the United States where they had intended to go with the hijacked aircraft. WAM reported that the police had begun to interrogate the seven hijackers who had earlier released their hostages.

QNA on Hijacking Investigation

GF270900 Doha QNA in Arabic 0735 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 Aug (QNA) — Preliminary results of the investigation of the hijackers of the Air India plane indicate that the basic request of the seven hijackers is political asylum in the United States and that they have no demands to make of the local authorities in the UAE. An official source at Dubayy police headquarters noted in a statement to the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* that the final results of the investigation will be revealed, if necessary, following completion of the investigation process. The paper also cites official sources as saying that the plane was allowed to touch down at Dubayy Airport after it was about to crash. The pilot had sent an SOS message stressing that his plane was likely to crash if it was not allowed to land.

The U.S. Embassy in Dubayy, in a statement to the UAE newspaper *AL-BAYAN* today, has denied receiving any request from the hijackers for political asylum in the United States. An official source in Dubayy dismissed a report carried by one of the local papers yesterday indicating that the hijackers of the Indian plane had been supplied with weapons during a stopover at Lahore airport in Pakistan. The source said that the hijackers told security authorities in Dubayy that they had weapons from the moment they took control of the aircraft when it was in the Indian airspace.

PDRY

Official Returns From Syria With Message

GF242016 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, returned to Aden yesterday after concluding a visit to Syria lasting several days. During his visit, Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir conveyed a message from Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to his brother Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The message pertains to exchanging political views with regard to the latest developments in the Arab region. ANA reported that Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir is carrying a reply message from the Syrian president to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

Upon arrival he was received by Anis Hasan Yahya, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee, in addition to a number of officials at the Secretariat of the Central Committee.

AFP: French Naval Officer on Red Sea Mines
NC261229 Paris AFP in English 1215 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Djibouti, Aug 26 (AFP) — In Djibouti, Rear Admiral Dominique Lefebvre explains that all the ships damaged in Red Sea explosions since early last month were hit in sites where the water depth was at least 100 meters (over 300 feet). The officer, commander of French Naval Forces in the Indian Ocean, has been directing the French side of operations to help clear the Red Sea and Gulf of Suez of the explosives.

His men have identified three mined sites which together account for more than a half of the blasts. All three lie on Red Sea shipping corridors:

- Between the Hanish Islands and the North Yemen Coast (six ships)
- At the entrance to the Gulf of Suez (four ships)
- Near the southern edge of the Suez Canal (three ships)

The French operation in the Red Sea off the Saudi coast, at the request of Saudi authorities, by the mine-sweepers *Cantho* and *Dompair* was called off after eight days, Rear Admiral Lefebvre says. No trace of mines was discovered.

While he refused systematically to speculate on the identity of the mine-laying vessel — Egyptian and British news reports have blamed the Libyan roll-on/roll-off ferry *Ghat* which was known to have crossed the Red Sea shortly before the first blasts — the French officer has ruled out the hypothesis of floating mines. The Red Sea's strong currents would drastically reduce their efficiency, carrying the mines far from original target zones, he explains.

Instead, it is probable the mines were planted to rest on the sea bed to be activated by the passage of a ship. Easy to lay, these mines explode creating a sudden increase in water pressure beneath the ship's hull. The pressure sets off violent vibrations within the ships but is not sufficient to crack the hull. His explanation is backed by the experience of the *Theopolis*, which struck a mine on August 15. The *Theopolis* captain told AFP his ship began to shake following the explosion. "You would have said an earthquake," he recalled.

This type of sea mine can be ultra-sophisticated. Some can explode soon after they are planted while others are timed to go off several hours or days later. Some varieties can "count," exploding only after the fifth or sixth passage of a ship.

Suez Canal Authority Chairman Meets Newsmen
JN262037 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Port Said, 26 Aug (MENA) — Engineer Muhammad 'Izzat 'Adil, the Suez Canal Authority chairman, has announced that it has been decided to obligate all ships passing through the Suez Canal to submit a detailed manifest of the cargo they are carrying 48 hours before they arrive at the northern or southern entrances to the Suez Canal. He added that penalties will be imposed on ships which carry explosives discovered before they cross the canal. In case undeclared dangerous materials are

discovered on ships inside the canal, they will be banned from passing through the Suez Canal for 2 years.

In a news conference he held today in the Suez Canal Authority's building in Port Said, the authority chairman affirmed that the Suez Canal, its branches, and the ships' waiting areas are clear of any mines. Engineer Muhammad 'Izzat 'Adil, chairman of the Suez Canal Authority, added that the average of cargos traversing the canal has decreased by 2 million tons since 1 August in comparison with the same period of last year. However, he said, navigation in the Canal has returned to normal, and 62 ships went through the Canal this morning. This is the average number of ships that use the Canal daily.

Engineer Muhammad 'Izzat 'Adil stressed that there is no need for the measures that are called for by some of the ship-owners unions abroad and the general federations of trade unions in the littoral states regarding increased insurance on ships in the Suez Canal and the Red Sea. He pointed out that the explosions that occurred in the Red Sea were minor ones and caused no harm to anyone. He also said that no ship sank as a result of these explosions. Moreover, he added, these mines are not dangerous. The authority chairman said that Lloyd's Insurance Company has not increased the insurance on ships passing through the canal because it understands the real dimension of the problem.

He added that inspection operations are being carried out on all suspect ships that use the Suez Canal. This inspection is not aimed at any particular ship or nationality. He said that this inspection is a natural matter through which Egypt exercises its sovereignty and right to secure its borders, waterways, and territorial waters. The chairman of the Suez Canal Authority said at the news conference that no dangerous materials have been discovered on board the ships that have been inspected, and consequently no ship has been banned entry to the Canal. He said that the last of these ships were two Iranian ships which entered Port Said this morning. He said the two Iranian ships will go within the north convoy tomorrow morning.

Muhammad 'Izzat 'Adil said that the mine-clearing operations will continue until we are sure the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea are free of mines. He added that Italian mine hunters will arrive within the next 2 days to participate in mine-clearing operations. He said that Netherlands minehunters will also arrive within the next few days. The chairman described these measures as being not only in Egypt's interest, but also in the world's interest and prosperity. Concluding his news conference, he thanked all the states that are helping Egypt clear the Red Sea and Suez waters.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM: Arms Found on Libyan Plane
NC250536 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Aug (MENA) — The weekly newspaper *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* has disclosed a new Libyan scandal that occurred in a large Arab country. The paper says security authorities at the airport of this country seized two aircraft with boxes full of arms, which were under the pretext of being diplomatic shipments. In its Saturday issue, the paper details the Libyan scandal. It says that on 18 August, two Libyan airliners landed at an airport of a large Arab country with a great number

of Libyan passengers, who were on a tourist and friendly visit to this fraternal country. The paper says the security authorities at the airport noticed that the passengers had many huge boxes. The security authorities were more surprised when the passengers refused to open the boxes under the pretext that they were diplomatic shipments.

The paper says the passengers threatened to create a diplomatic crisis between the two countries if the authorities insisted on opening the boxes. The airport security authorities accordingly contacted higher responsible authorities in the state, which ordered the Libyan passengers themselves be searched. The paper points out that a second surprise occurred when the airport security men found arms, which the Libyan passengers had hidden in their clothing. This increased the security men's suspicions about the diplomatic boxes and the possibility they might contain explosive and hostile leaflets. The paper adds that in light of this, a contact took place between the two capitals and both sides agreed that Al-Qadhdhafi would send the number two man in Libya, 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, aboard a private aircraft to apologize for the incident.

The paper says that Jallud's speedy arrival, his apology, and his deep embarrassment reveals the seriousness of the incident and the panic the Libyan regime felt because the arms were discovered on the Libyan passengers, and because they had insisted the boxes should not be opened because they contained diplomatic shipments.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM further says the Libyan regime did not stop its terrorist policy toward this Arab country. After the two Libyan airliners were released, the authorities at the port in the same city were surprised by the arrival of a Libyan passenger ship with many Libyan passengers who claimed to be tourists with scores of closed boxes that must not be checked. The paper says the captain of the Libyan ship refused to allow the security men to board the ship to search it. The security men, however, insisted on searching it in implementation of orders by higher authorities. The paper says the ship was seized, was carefully searched, and was under strong guard until it sailed for Libya.

The paper says the Libyan regime has in fact become a general danger. It does not differentiate between a fraternal country and a hostile country, nor between a regime that it accepts and one that it rejects.

Mubarak Meets With Numayri at Cairo Airport *NC241256 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 24 Aug 84*

[Text] Cairo, 24 Aug (MENA) — Presidents Husni Mubarak and Ja'far Numayri held a closed meeting at the VIP Lounge at Cairo Airport today to review developments in the area and the results of President Numayri's visit to Bucharest. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid met with his Sudanese counterpart Hashim 'Uthman to discuss the latest developments in the Middle East.

Meet With Journalists

NC241354 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1315 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Aug (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has stated that Libya is still suspect with regard to the events in the Red Sea since the first Libyan ship crossed the canal on 6 July and was followed by the first explosion on 9 July. President Mubarak said this in a statement he made to journalists today when he received Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri.

Replying to a question about Soviet participation in the clearing operations in the Red Sea, President Mubarak said that the Soviet Union is a major power which has interests in the area. So, why should it not participate in this work?

Asked when the forces participating in the clearing operations will depart, President Mubarak said that the forces engaged in the clearing operations came for a specific task and when this task is accomplished they will leave the area. His excellency added that once the Red Sea is cleared, these forces will leave the area because their task is restricted to this operation.

President Numayri answered journalists' questions regarding his visit to Romania. He said: The visit came on the occasion of Romania's national day. The talks there dealt with current issues. As usual, Romania always calls for peace and this is the same course that we follow.

Answering a question on the call for holding a summit conference for the Red Sea littoral states, President Numayri said: This call is a positive step but it has come very late. It would be beneficial if it succeeds because the Red Sea is important not only for Egypt, Sudan, and Saudi Arabia but also for the entire world.

Answering another question on the subjects to be discussed during his meeting with President Mubarak, President Numayri said: We will discuss the situation in the Arab region. We will deal calmly and logically with all that is happening. There is Arab unity between Libya and Morocco and it is being said that it has been called Arab-African unity. This has made me pause at the word African because Al-Qadhdhafi is occupying Chad by force. I told the Moroccan envoy yesterday that we have been calling for unity [wihdah] and union [ittihad] since the existence of colonialism, but if there is a unity by force between Libya and Chad then there will be problems between this union and Egypt and Sudan.

Numayri, Delegation Depart Cairo

NC241317 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1257 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Aug (MENA) — Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri and his delegation left Cairo airport at 1530 today. President Numayri was seen off by President Husni Mubarak; Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid; Interior Minister Major General Ahmad Rushdi; Cairo Governor Sabri Abu Talib; and 'Abd ar-Rahman Sultan, the Sudanese ambassador in Cairo. Presidents Husni Mubarak and Ja'far Numayri held a

closed session of talks in the Presidential Lounge at Cairo Airport. The meeting lasted approximately 1 and 1/2 hours.

Ghali Receives New Soviet Charge d'Affaires

NC261325 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today received Edmond A. Shakhnazaryan, Soviet embassy charge d'affaires, to bid him farewell at the end of his tour of duty. The new Soviet charge d'affaires, Mikhail (Tasgan) attended the meeting.

Mubarak Receives Message From Cameroon's Biya

NC260858 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Alexandria, 26 Aug (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning received Cameroonian Minister Delegated to the Minister of Foreign Affairs Mahamat Paba Sale, who forwarded a message from Cameroonian President Paul Biya. Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Cameroonian ambassador in Cairo attended the meeting.

Mubarak Conveys Message on Support for Namibia

NC261001 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 26 Aug (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has reaffirmed Egypt's position on the need to implement all the UN and OAU resolutions regarding the support of the Namibian people in obtaining their legitimate rights of freedom, happiness, and self-determination. The president said Egypt hopes the next few months will witness the birth of an independent state of Namibia under SWAPO [South West African People's Organization] leadership, as part of the free African family.

President Mubarak announced that Egypt believes security and stability in South Africa represent a basic factor in the security and stability of the entire African Continent. He stressed Egypt's solidarity with the African states confronting the racist regime in Pretoria.

President Mubarak emphasized that the new South African Constitution constitutes a violation of the principles of UN Charter, and that its implementation will lead to a deterioration of the situation and to an exacerbation of tension among the ranks of the African majority. He declared that Egypt refuses to acknowledge the results of the elections, which are being organized in South Africa in support of the new constitution, which only aims to support the white minority and deny the rights of the majority.

This came in the message that President Mubarak addressed to the African people during the official celebration Egypt held today in the Celebration Hall in the Nile Corniche on the occasion of the international day of the support for the people of Namibia in their just struggle against the racist government in South Africa.

The message was read on behalf of the president by Ambassador Ahmad Sidqi, the director of the African Desk in the Foreign Ministry.

Assembly Statement Supports Namibia

NC250923 Cairo MENA in English 0905 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, Aug 25, (MENA) — Egypt supports the Namibian people's struggle against [the] South African Government and backs Namibia's right to self-determination and independence under SWAPO, its sole legitimate representative. This came in a statement issued today by the People's Assembly External Relations Committee on the occasion of celebrations marking the international day of solidarity with the people of Namibia.

The statement called on the international community to adopt the necessary measures that ensure the application of the Security Council resolutions and to reject all political and constitutional plots by which the racist regime in South Africa tries to falsify the will of the Namibian people.

The statement condemned the inhuman policy exercised by the racist regime against South Africa and Namibia as a flagrant violation of the United Nations charter and the world declaration of human rights.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B Interviews Information Minister

JN251538 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 25 Aug 84 p 19

[Hidayat 'Abd an-Nabi dispatch from Cairo]

[Excerpts] In an exclusive interview with *SAWT ASH-SHA'B*, Egyptian Information Minister Safwat ash-Sharif said that Egyptian-Arab relations in the field of information did not halt at any stage of the Egyptian-Arab alienation. He stressed that Arab news media have the role of helping the Arab nation overcome crises and attain pan-Arab objectives. This, he added, means that Arab information should aim at unification rather than division, construction rather than destruction, and provide ample scope for discussion of the Arab citizen's sentiments. The Egyptian minister said he is extremely optimistic over the future and unity of Arab information media.

On another level, the Egyptian minister praised Egyptian-Jordanian media relations and said that Jordanian Information Minister Layla Sharaf's visit to Egypt was the climax of Egyptian-Jordanian cooperation in the field of information. He added that her visit was an example to be followed by the Arab news media as a whole, because this is how relations among media men should be.

The following is the text of the Egyptian information minister's interview with *SAWT ASH-SHA'B*:

SAWT ASH-SHA'B: How does the Egyptian Information Minister view current Egyptian-Arab news media relations?

Safwat ash-Sharif: What should be commended and indicated is that intra-Arab media relations continued despite the difficulties and tough circumstances which encompassed these relations.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B: Is there a chance you will visit Jordan shortly? Has Layla Sharaf invited you?

Safwat ash-Sharif: The Jordanian information minister has invited me to Jordan. I can only accept with great pleasure and will make this visit in due time. Jordan and Egypt are two countries with solid relations. Egyptian-Jordanian relations are at their best and there is a mutual understanding. Ties between President Mubarak and His Majesty King Husayn are based on respect and understanding of Arab causes and the region's issues. There are constant consultations and contacts at the highest level between Egypt and Jordan.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B: Why are Jordanian newspapers not circulated in Egypt although Egyptian papers are in Jordan?

Safwat ash-Sharif: There is no ban on any Arab paper. We have passed that stage. We welcome all Arab papers, particularly the Jordanian papers. We want them to be available here. Regrettably, those who import these papers are either contractors or agents. Therefore, the quantities received are insufficient and irregular.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B: New developments have taken place concerning Tabah. An Egyptian lieutenant moved the barbed wire to a new place and the Israelis infiltrated it. How true is this story, published by the Egyptian paper *AL-WAFD*?

Safwat ash-Sharif: His story is untrue. The paper should not have published information that might harm sovereignty. It should have investigated the soundness of such an issue. The situation has not changed since 25 April 1982. The newspaper should have investigated its report, which is baseless. President Mubarak has said that we will never relinquish a grain of sand on our land. Although time elapses, Egypt will not relinquish its land. We are in a civilized world, and there are many means of regaining Egypt's rights. We will never relinquish our rights. This is settled by President Mubarak, by the people, and by the party of the majority.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B: What is your view of the danger of the Gulf war spreading to the Red Sea? And how do you view the importance of Arab solidarity in the current phase?

Safwat ash-Sharif: Even if it does not spread to the Red Sea, the Gulf war is in itself dangerous to the Arab nation. It will become more dangerous if it spreads to the waterways through irresponsible actions. Egypt's national security is linked to the Red Sea. We are able to maintain Egyptian national security and protect our coasts, the Gulf of Suez, as well as navigation in the Suez Canal. We have stressed that the Suez Canal is safe for navigation and that there are no obstacles or mines in either the Gulf of Suez or the Suez Canal. Nothing dangerous has occurred, but the concept of what has occurred has grave effects, that is, the attempt to expand the scope of war. The tanker war has turned into mining operations. This violates all international norms. Egypt is determined to watch and achieve its security and to prevent any side from tampering with Egyptian national security and with the security of the Gulf of Suez, the Suez Canal, or the security of our coasts. This issue concerns all the Arabs.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B: There are particularly strong relations between Egypt and Jordan, between Egypt and Iraq, and between Egypt and Morocco, as well as between Egypt and some other Arab countries. Why are not the diplomatic relations resumed? What is the role of the news media in closing Arab ranks?

Safwat ash-Sharif: In fact, there are political, economic, and trade relations as well as cooperation in all fields. President Mubarak has frequently said that we do not want to embarrass anybody. Egypt does not consider the issue of accredited ambassadors a problem. What is more important is the search for unity of Arab actions to save political objectives and to support the basic Arab causes, as the president put it. These are the Palestine question, the Lebanese issue, and the Gulf war as the dangers to which the Arab nation's future is being exposed. This is the basic question. Egypt will continue its steadfastness and its support for fraternal Arabs in all fields and in all international circles without any sensitivities, complexes, or accredited ambassadors.

Communique No 1,567: Maritime Target Hit
JN241619 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
 1600 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,567 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 24 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our heroic Armed Forces are proudly and vehemently defending the territory of great Iraq against the evil forces of the Khomeyniite clique. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. A daring air strike was mounted against a large maritime target south of Khark Island at 1014 today. The target received accurate, effective hits and all our planes returned safely to base after successfully accomplishing their mission, praise be to God.
2. Using artillery and other weapons, our brave forward units pounded enemy positions, troop concentrations, and vehicles east of Basra, killing three, wounding others, and destroying one bulldozer and one weapons emplacement. Those manning the emplacement were killed.
3. One of our forward units opened fire on enemy positions and vehicles in the central sector. One enemy hardware stockpile and one vehicle were destroyed.
4. Our heavy artillery dealt strong, effective blows to enemy positions in the Maysan sector, inflicting human and material losses.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 August 1984

Communique No 1,569 on 25-26 Aug War Operations
JN261629 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1605 GMT
 26 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,569 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 26 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

For the sake of Iraq's loftiness and the dignity of its sons, our valiant Armed Forces continue their activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the shaky Khomeyniite clique with intrepidity and determination. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our valiant forward units intensively shelled enemy positions and troop concentrations in the operational sector east of Basra and also pounded them with all types of weapons, killing one and setting several positions on fire. While carrying out its duties in the no-man's-land in another area of the same sector, one of our combat patrols captured serviceable weapons.
2. Our valiant artillery men fiercely and effectively shelled enemy positions opposite one of our forward unit's positions in the central sector of the battlefield, destroying four infantry positions, killing their occupants, and also destroying one enemy observation post.

3. One firing position was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 August 1984

Communique No 1,568 on 25 August Actions
JN251613 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT
 25 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,568 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 25 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With further strength, determination, and firmness, the heroic sons of our Armed Forces are continuing their activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the covetous Khomeyniite clique. The results of the activities for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units fired on several enemy positions, vehicles, and weapons emplacements in the operational area east of Basra, destroying one excavator, one observation post, and one machine gun and starting several fires in the enemy positions and equipment.
2. One of our brave forward combat units carried out a successful action against enemy positions in the central sector of the battlefield and the day before yesterday managed to burn one vehicle and to capture three enemy troops. Elsewhere in the same sector, one infantry position was destroyed.

3. One personnel position was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 August 1984

AL-JUMHURIYAH on Continuing Khark Island Siege
JN250708 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Aug (INA) — *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says that the Iraqi siege on the Iranian ports will not replace the destruction of Khark Island and the other ports of export.

AL-JUMHURIYAH stresses that this siege will continue, as well as the air and naval strikes, against maritime targets which seek to penetrate this siege to help the Iranian regime prolong its aggression against Iraq. The paper adds that the appropriate time will soon come for the destruction of Khark Island itself.

In its editorial today, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* explains that the objective of destroying the Iranian ports of export will continue to exist as long as the aggression against Iraq continues and as long as Iraq continues to be deprived of the use of its ports and waterways and is not allowed to enjoy its right to free navigation through the Arab Gulf.

Concluding, the paper emphasizes that the appropriate time for the destruction of Khark Island is not that far away. The paper says: We will not give the Iranian rulers any opportunity to catch their breath and seek other alternatives.

ATH-THAWRAH Says Blockade Decision Irrevocable
JN260903 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0602 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Aug (INA) — The newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH* has said that the Iraqi blockade of Khark Island and other Iranian ports in the Arab Gulf is a decisive, firm, and irrevocable decision. In an article today, *ATH-THAWRAH* added that the blockade, which began on 27 February last year, has proved to be effective in paralyzing and weakening the Iranian regime's resources and in aggravating its stifling economic problems, which also reflect on its entire political and military situation. The paper added further that the blockade decision is legitimate because the Iranian regime is still insisting on continuing the war and refusing to abandon its dreams of occupying and destroying Iraq.

ATH-THAWRAH said that the essential, salient fact that is obvious to the whole world is that the Iranian rulers have begun realizing the bitter results of their insistence on war, expansion, and aggression. It pointed out that the Iranian regime is suffering from retrogression, dissolution, and confusion in every internal field to the extent that it is possible to say they have actually crossed the danger line. In conclusion, the paper says: The Iranian regime, which has become aware of its impotency and its utter failure to achieve any of its aggressive aims, no matter how arrogantly it behaved and despite its bragging about its military preparations and concentrations, is now in its worst situation.

Foreign Ministers Arrive for Meeting on Gulf

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister

JN251136 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Aug (INA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived here today to attend the third meeting of the Arab seven-member committee entrusted to follow up the Iraqi-Iranian war. The committee will begin meetings here tomorrow.

In a statement to INA, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah said that during its meeting, the committee will review the results of its mission since its establishment which consisted of holding contacts on the international level to explain the dimensions and developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war. He added that during the previous visits, the committee had explained Iran's intransigent stand with the purpose of pressuring Iran to abandon this stand and accept the principle of peace. The Kuwaiti minister said that the committee will discuss its working program for the next stage. The Kuwaiti minister was welcomed on arrival by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Saudi Foreign Minister

JN251703 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1632 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Aug (INA) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived here late this afternoon to participate in the third meeting of the Arab seven-member committee in charge of following up the Iraqi-Iranian war. The meeting is scheduled to begin tomorrow.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal told INA that the committee will follow up the results of efforts exerted by the representatives of the committee, which was formed according to a decision adopted at the Arab foreign ministers meeting in Baghdad in March. These efforts, he added, focused on briefing world opinion on the Iraqi-Iranian war developments and the negative results of this war.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal indicated the positive results of the committee's efforts in this regard and expressed hope that efforts will continue to end the war as soon as possible as this will positively affect the interests of all parties concerned. He was received at the airport by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the director of the Arab Department at the Foreign Ministry; the chief of protocol; and the Saudi ambassador in Baghdad.

Klibi, Other Foreign Ministers

JN260805 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0646 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Aug (INA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, and Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdeouahid Belkeziz arrived in Baghdad at dawn today to participate in the third meeting of the Arab committee in charge of following up Iraqi-Iranian war developments. Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri and YAR Foreign Minister Ahmad Muhammad al-Asbahi also arrived in Baghdad last night to participate in the committee meeting.

Meeting Opens 26 Aug

JN261004 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Aug (INA) — The third meeting of the Arab committee charged with following up Iraqi-Iranian war developments began here this morning. The committee will evaluate all its activities since its establishment and draw up a plan for action on the international level to pressure the Iranian regime and force it to abandon its intransigent attitude and its insistence on continuing the war against Iraq. The committee's future efforts will center on crystallizing a more serious international stand for the sake of realizing peace in the region and supporting the Iraqi position, which calls for a just, honorable peace. It may be recalled that the committee was formed during the extraordinary Arab League Council session in Baghdad last March. The committee is comprised of the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Iraq, Tunis, Kuwait, Morocco, and the YAR as well as the Arab League secretary general.

The meeting was attended by Hamid 'Alwan, Iraqi minister of state for foreign affairs; the two under secretaries of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry; and the heads of the diplomatic missions in the Arab countries that are represented in the committee.

Meeting Ends 26 Aug

JN261402 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Aug (INA) — The third meeting of the Arab committee charged with following up Iraqi-Iranian war develop-

ments ended here this afternoon. The committee discussed the topics on its agenda and evaluated the political situation with respect to the Iraqi-Iranian war. It also reviewed the efforts it exerted during the past stage and the results of the contacts the delegations stemming from it held with several countries.

The committee made several decisions concerning its action program in the coming stage. The third meeting of the committee discussed ways of entrenching the Arab stand of solidarity with Iraq, ending the war, and attaining a just peace through peaceful means.

Saddam Husayn Receives Committee

JN261644 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] President Saddam Husayn this afternoon received the Arab Committee charged with following up Iraqi-Iranian war developments. Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi briefed the president on the efforts exerted by the committee during the past stage and the results it reached during its successful third meeting held in Baghdad. Klibi also explained the committee's plan of action for the coming stage. The Arab League secretary general praised the practical atmosphere which prevailed over the committee's activities and the complete understanding and harmony which exist among its members.

President Saddam Husayn highly valued the efforts exerted by the Arab League secretary general and the members of the Arab committee charged with following up Iraqi-Iranian war developments, saluting their good efforts to champion their Iraqi brothers who are defending Iraq, which is committed to peace and seeks justice.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Ahmad Husayn, head of the president's office; and Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs.

President Receives Saudi Minister

JN261649 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] President Saddam Husayn received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal this afternoon.

The Saudi foreign Minister conveyed a verbal message to President Saddam Husayn from his Brother His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on the close fraternal relations between the two countries, the situation in the region, and issues of mutual interest.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Klibi on Committee Activities

JN261955 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1920 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Aug (INA) — Arab League Secretary Gen-

eral Chedli Klibi has stated that the Arab committee charged with following up Iraqi-Iranian war developments has adopted a new action program that includes holding contacts during the forthcoming UN General Assembly session with the purpose of ending the Iraqi-Iranian war.

During a news conference here this evening, Klibi said that the committee had implemented the provisions of its program and that a fraternal atmosphere prevailed over the committee's meeting, as well as a high sense of responsibility toward Arab solidarity and world peace and security.

Klibi reviewed the committee's activities at its third meeting which ended here today and which dealt with an evaluation of the efforts that were exerted during the two previous meetings and the stands of some foreign countries on these efforts.

Klibi added that the committee discussed the impressions its delegations have had from the countries they visited and these countries' contributions to international efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war by peaceful means.

The committee stemming from the Arab foreign ministers emergency meeting which convened in Baghdad last March is comprised of the Saudi, Kuwaiti, Jordanian, Moroccan, YAR, Tunisian, and Iraqi foreign ministers and the Arab League secretary general.

AL-JUMHURIYAH on Arab Strategy in Red Sea

JN251152 Baghdad INA in English 1110 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, Aug 25, INA — *AL-JUMHURIYAH* daily called for laying down a comprehensive Arab strategy to achieve security and stability in the Red Sea.

In a study published here today, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* stressed that grave threats to navigation in the Red Sea would jeopardize all Arab countries and Arab collective security, as it might prompt several international parties to step up their presence in the region under the pretext of securing its stability.

The study underlined that as Iran failed to confront Iraq at all fronts it resorted to the adventure of mining Suez Canal and the Red Sea, in an attempt to make some parties believe that it (Iran) is still strong and capable of inciting trouble in the region.

The daily mentioned that when Iran failed to isolate Iraq from other Arab countries, it chose another course, namely, mining the Red Sea.

AL-JUMHURIYAH concluded that carrying out such acts by the Iranian regime was aimed at terrorizing Arab Gulf states, which had stood alongside Iraq, and also aimed at relieving the Iranian regime from the crisis it had been suffering since Iraq's siege of Khark oil terminal and other Iranian ports was imposed last February.

Prime Minister Leaves for USSR on Private Visit*JN250658 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 25 Aug 84 p 1*

[Text] Amman — AR-RA'Y — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat left Amman the day before yesterday for the USSR on a private visit of several days. Deputy Prime Minister Sulayman 'Arar assumes the authority and tasks of the prime minister while he is away.

Further Report*LD251705 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1639 GMT 25 Aug 84*

[Text] Moscow, 25 Aug (KUNA) — Today Jordanian diplomatic sources here confirmed that Prime Minister of Jordan Ahmad 'Ubaydat is currently in the Soviet Union. The sources told KUNA that 'Ubaydat arrived in the Soviet Union last night on a private visit accompanying his wife, who is to be treated for an undisclosed illness in the town of (Karkhan) in the Urals.

The sources did not state whether 'Ubaydat would meet any of the Soviet leaders, but emphasized that the visit was a private one. The Jordanian AR-RA'Y had reported that the visit was private. However, Western reports datelined Amman said that it was highly likely that preliminary talks on the possibility of Jordan getting Soviet arms would be held.

Soviet Arms Sales, Military Relations Analyzed*JN270955 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 27 Aug 84 pp 28, 24*

[Tariq Masarwah "Everyday" column: "We and the Soviets"]

[Text] Western journalists are now interested in knowing the date of his majesty the king's visit to the Soviet Union. They are also interested in knowing Prime Minister 'Ubaydat's mission in the Soviet Union and the results of the Army commander's visit. Consequently, they are interested in the scope of Jordanian-Soviet relations and how these relations reflect on the political atmosphere in the region. This is especially so because Arab-Soviet relations began with the Egyptian arms deal in 1955 and developed into a trend hostile to Western and U.S. policy, particularly after the old colonialist form of British-French influence in the Arab region was terminated for good.

Although we have no more information in this regard than the Western journalists, we are following up the successive moves of the Amman-Moscow line with interest and understanding which are at times identical to the Western correspondents' interest, but which largely differ from their analyses and expectations. This is because their measurement of political moves is based on whether these moves are with the United States or against it, with the Soviet Union or against it; our measurement is based on whether something is with the Jordanian and Arab interests or against them.

The following is our analysis of the succession and acceleration of Jordanian officials' visit to Moscow and vice versa:

1. Since 1977, the U.S. stand toward the Jordanian arms program has not found a language of joint understanding with the

U.S. Administration. The Americans' calculations of the size and quality of weapons required have been Israeli calculations, taking into consideration the effect that the mobile Hawk missile batteries, the F-14 aircraft, and the Stinger missiles would have on the Israeli Air Force. We consider this stand a biased one, especially since the Israeli military power, which depends on the United States, is an expansionist power that is occupying an Arab territory and threatening to occupy further Arab lands. This U.S. stand toward the Jordanian arms program is in complete harmony with the accusation that says: The United States is against any sort of military balance between the concerned Arabs and the Israelis. Consequently, the United States is against any type of a just and lasting political settlement that conforms with the UN resolutions.

2. Part of our analysis says: The Jordanian arms program, which clashes with the mentality of the completely biased U.S. Administration, also possesses non-U.S. arms options, some in Western Europe — and these are very costly and slow — and others in the Soviet Union. This is what may happen. Fortunately, this is actually happening now, because the Soviets realize that they can deal with a free Jordanian decision that is committed only to Jordanian and Arab interests. They also realize that there is a special level for dealing with Jordan in the arms field, because the Jordanian Army is capable of absorbing, respecting and using Soviet weapons in a highly effective manner.

3. In comparison, particularly from this angle, the Soviet desire to arm the Arabs in order to maintain a military balance in the region conforms completely with the Soviet desire to find a just political solution to the region's conflict and to implement the UN resolutions. Strong Arabs are the guarantee for a just and real peace, not vice versa. This is because the strong Israelis are interested in expansion, not peace. The Soviet Union has again proposed a peace plan that was approved by the Arabs, regardless of their different policies. It was accepted by Damascus, Cairo, Amman, and the PLO. Naturally, it was rejected by Washington and Tel Aviv.

4. This political-armament equation of Jordanian-U.S. and Jordanian-Soviet relations necessarily presumes Jordan approaching the Soviet Union whenever the U.S. Administration gets closer to Israel, whenever the occupation of southern Lebanon becomes worse, whenever a new house is built in the Israeli settlements, whenever Israeli elections are held, and whenever a new person joins Kahane's group. This extremism and aggressiveness in the Israeli community basically stems from a military imbalance in the region and from the U.S. military, financial, economic, and diplomatic support for Israel.

Western journalists and even many in the Arab world may not understand that the Jordanian political movement has a large maneuvering ground between the two major camps, and that it can cultivate this large area without entering the deadlock of international polarization. We want the Russians' friendship and support, and they are extending a hand of friendship and supporting us for the sake of a just cause — the cause of dignity, freedom, and sovereignty. We do not want to burden them with consequences and responsibilities in the form of treaties, nor do they want them after their unhappy experience in the region.

AD-DUSTUR Raps Kirkpatrick's Remarks, U.S. Stand
JN260855 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
 0500 GMT 26 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Mercy Bullet," *AD-DUSTUR* says: It came as no surprise when Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the U.S. representative at the United Nations, announced that President Reagan's plan for peace in the Middle East no longer existed and that it was no longer suitable, particularly after the Republican Party had dropped this plan from its platform.

The United States had previously placed the U.S. Presidency's full weight behind this plan and regarded it as the only possible option for establishing peace in the Middle East. This is because the United States, which stood helplessly in the face of Israel's absolute rejection of President Reagan's initiative, which was proposed nearly 2 years ago, and even continued to support Israeli occupation of the occupied Arab territories through direct financial and political backing, was expected to go back on its word.

By officially declaring this change of course, the United States was in complete harmony with its Middle East policy, which has always been characterized by contradiction, shortsightedness, and ambiguity. Moreover, the principal aspects of this U.S. policy have never prompted the Arabs to trust or rely on it.

By making this not unexpected announcement, the United States was faithful to its biased policy toward Israel, which violates the most basic principles of international rights and justice, contradicts all the declared U.S. promises, approves the various Israeli stands, and supports Tel Aviv's views on all the issues under discussion in the region beginning with the issue of Judaization in the occupied territories and ending with the issue of southern Lebanon, which represented the most important practical test of U.S. policy in the region.

AD-DUSTUR adds: It seems that the United States was not satisfied with firing the mercy bullet at its Middle East peace plan, but will continue to support and appease Israel by preparing a campaign to rescue the Israeli economy, which reached this stage of deterioration as a result of the policies of war, expansion, and aggression against the Arab region's peoples.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: Such U.S. stands confirm something new. It tells us, the Arabs, that the United States is an international side whose policy cannot be trusted or relied upon and that this strong superpower has completely joined the Israeli camp. This is both sad and regrettable and urges us to learn the lesson quickly and to remember its points fully.

Further Criticism

JN260822 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 26 Aug 84 p 4

[Editorial: "After the Initiative"]

[Text] Not many people should have been taken by surprise when the U.S. envoy to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick, implied on Saturday that President Reagan's Middle East initiative of

September 1982 was "outdated." The initiative could not really be taken seriously when Washington refused to exert any political pressure on Israel to accept it. The proposal was aborted by the U.S. Administration itself when the uninterrupted flow of arms and subsidy money to Israel was not halted; when the strategic cooperation agreement between the U.S. and Israel was signed; and when the U.S. veto came in the U.N. Security Council in 1983 against the continuation of the Israeli settlement programme. It was not only Israel's rejection of the Reagan plan that has actually killed it. It was not transparent at the start that the plan was generated by diversionary motives to calm and appease the "moderate" Arabs as insinuated by Mrs Kirkpatrick in her interview with Israel Radio on Saturday. The plan then was not viewed in Jordan as being engineered as an act of stalling and gaining time immediately after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the exposure of biased U.S. policy as might have been admitted by Mrs Kirkpatrick in her interview. The feeling in the Arab world at that time pointed all fingers of incrimination at the U.S.' lack of political credibility in the area and its need for a planned continuity of purpose. In hindsight, we say to Mrs. Kirkpatrick that the plan was stillborn. It was killed by Washington first of all. It was "outdated" right from the moment of its birth.

The political vertebrae for a permanent peace plan has to embody the basic constituents of U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338. Any plan without the calculated pressure to implement it is bound to fail. Israel's rejection of the plan and U.S. apathy and indifference exposed the real purpose of "tactical manoeuvres" which appear intended at sedating the Arab public opinion. But the main fact remains that the U.S.' loss of credibility with the big question marks about its political integrity will in the end reflect badly on the U.S. and, sadly, on all those of us who once cherished a hope of America's sense of justice and objectivity, as well.

Ambassador Kirkpatrick's statement yesterday confirms the old notion that it is the U.S. policy which creates room for its strategic rivals in the area. But the main issue remains: What sort of political ramifications will result if the U.S. withdraws its initiative, as Mrs. Kirkpatrick indicated yesterday. This is a different question for now. One day soon though, it will have to be tackled — and answered.

Al-Masri Leaves for Baghdad Meeting on Gulf War

JN252114 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
 2100 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri left Amman this evening for Baghdad to attend meetings of the Arab committee in charge of following up the Iraq-Iran war. The committee will hold a meeting in Baghdad tomorrow morning.

Jordanian-Palestinian Committee Meets in Amman

JN251637 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
 1600 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Amman — The Jordanian-Palestinian committee for supporting steadfastness held its first session in the Interior Ministry today.

Occupied Territories Minister Shawkat Mahmud said the committee discussed the issue of supporting the steadfastness of the citizens in the occupied territories and the budget for the steadfastness fund and its deficit.

He added that committee discussed the best way to increase revenues for the fund in order to regain its original strength.

The session was attended on the Jordanian side by Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister; Dr Jawad al-'Anani, minister of industry, trade, and tourism; and Shawkat Mahmud, minister of occupied territories.

It was attended on the Palestinian side by Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces; Hanna Nasir, PLO Executive Committee member; and Salih Ra'fat, member of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine Political Bureau.

Al-Masri Receives Indonesian Envoy, Message

JN251452 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Amman, 25 Aug (PETRA) — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri received in his office today Abdullah Kamil, the Indonesian foreign minister's special envoy, who delivered a written message from the Indonesian foreign minister.

Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives in Amman

JN261631 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Amman — Praphat Limpaphan, Thai deputy foreign minister and the Thai foreign minister's special envoy, arrived in Amman this afternoon at the head of a delegation comprising a number of Thai officials, on a 2-day visit to Jordan. He will hold talks on bilateral relations with Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, Minister of Industry, Trade, and Tourism Dr Jawad al-'Anani, and Labor Minister Dr Taysir 'Abd al-Jabir.

Reportage on Helicopter Crash Aftermath, Reactions**VOL: Fog Reason for Crash**

*NC242054 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT
24 Aug 84*

[Text] The outcome of the investigation into the helicopter crash ended the attempts to exploit the incident. Investigation committee sources informed the Voice of Lebanon that the investigations and information provided by [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah and eyewitnesses affirm that the incident occurred as a result of fog. The pilot found himself surrounded by thick fog and tried to avoid it by changing his route, but disaster occurred. President Franjiyah told the investigation committee that he had advised Major General al-Hakim to travel by land because of poor visibility, but the latter insisted on going aboard the military helicopter.

Army: Investigation Not Complete

*NC250905 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0845 GMT 25 Aug 84*

[Text] The Army command issued a statement today, saying that the committee commissioned with conducting the investigation into the helicopter incident has not yet completed its investigation. The statement adds that everything being published or broadcast is merely a personal deduction. The statement was alluding to the analyses and evaluations that certain radios have attributed to military or official sources.

Report: Explosion Not Responsible

*NC261520 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT
26 Aug 84*

[Text] A report prepared by a committee of civilian and military doctors has dismissed the possibility that the crash of the Lebanese helicopter was due to an explosion on board. The report points out that if the helicopter had exploded in the air, the bodies would have scattered over a large area. This did not happen. The bodies, the report says, were found close to the helicopter wreckage. The bodies were neither charred nor strewn over a large area, thus ruling out the possibility of an explosion on board the aircraft. It is noteworthy that the medical committee is composed of military doctors appointed by the military command along with civilian doctors who were appointed in response to a request by the relatives of the victims. The latter include a relative of martyr Major General Nadim al-Hakim.

Investigators Brief Birri

*NC251435 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1410 GMT
25 Aug 84*

[Text] The team conducting a judicial inquiry into the helicopter crash in north Lebanon this week, which claimed the lives of the chief of staff of the Army and several of his colleagues, today briefed Justice Minister Nabih Birri on its initial findings. Following the meeting, the head of the team, Chief Public

Prosecutor Camille Ja'ja' said that he and his colleagues had reported to Minister Birri. He noted that the investigation was still underway, but said that so far it looked like an accident.

One of the team members, military public prosecutor Fawzi Dagher, met with members of the special medical commission set up to investigate the incident, and a military spokesman indicated today that the ill-fated helicopter was not equipped with a black box. He said that the military investigation committee will report to the judicial committee as soon as possible.

A military spokesman later denied that the investigators had arrived at any conclusion and denied press reports as premature speculation.

Pierre al-Jumayyil Expresses Sorrow

*NC241324 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT
24 Aug 84*

[Text] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, minister of posts and communications, has expressed his profound sorrow and grief over yesterday's military helicopter crash in the north. He described it as a disaster that killed a number of brave officers.

Minister al-Jumayyil today chaired a meeting of the Phalange Party's Political Bureau during which current developments were discussed.

Al-Hakim Funeral Held

*NC251102 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic
0900 GMT 25 Aug 84*

[Excerpt] At the funeral of Martyr Major General Nadim al-Hakim, Martyr Lieutenant Rashad Abu Shaqra, and Martyr Sergeant Nizar Abu Shaqra, Brigadier General Nabil Quraytim spoke on behalf of the patriotic officers and soldiers and the comrades-in-arms. He also related short biographies of the martyrs. The next speaker was Progressive Socialist Party Chairman Walid Junblatt.

Junblatt Speech at Funeral

*NC251340 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic
to Lebanon 1130 GMT 25 Aug 84*

[Speech by Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt at funeral for Major General Nadim al-Hakim, Lieutenant Rashad Abu Shaqra, and Sergeant Nizar Abu Shaqra held in Al-Ma'rufiyah on 25 August — recorded]

[Text] Despite the severity, bitterness, and gravity of the present moment, let this be an occasion to pause and face the future with all frankness. I say this because the official media, the Phalangist media, and the Lebanese regime — the regime that, thank God, I do not belong to and will not belong to — are today making mean and despicable attempts to depict the liberation of the south as feasible only through the [security] plan for the mountain. This is a lie, this is hypocrisy, this is against reality. The liberation of

the south should come about through the recognition of the heroic national resistance. The liberation of the south should come about through the utilization of all the resources of this state, this regime, for the sake of helping the inhabitants of the south in An-Nabatiyah, Sidon, Hasbaya, Rashayya, Tyre, and in every village in this heroic and steadfast south. The liberation of the south should come about, one way or the other, through entering into purely security negotiations for the sake of expediting the Israeli withdrawal. I say purely security negotiations because we do not want to fall into a trap similar to the one which the regime got us into in the past, namely, the trap of the 17 May accord. We, the nationalists of Lebanon, said earlier that we support the security arrangements leading to the withdrawal of the Israeli Army from our land. What do we mean by security arrangements? We mean that the Armed Forces should protect the south, the security of the south, and the safety of the south. We mean that we should reach an agreement with the Arab brothers, and with the brothers in the Palestinian resistance with whom we honorably fought in the past in the same trench. We should be frank and say that today Lebanon alone cannot bear the responsibility or the results of the fedayeen action which takes place from its borders. This is precisely what we mean by the security arrangements. We do not want political arrangements: No peace with Israel, no negotiations with Israel, no recognition of Israel. This is what Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir said and we say it after 'Abd an-Nasir. [applause]

The head of the regime, Amin al-Jumayyil, thinks that 'Aytat, Ash-Shuwayfat, and 'Alayh are the gate to the south. Never. It appears that we have returned, as history repeats itself, to the previous security plan when the Army, or part of this Army, shelled the southern suburb and destroyed it; when it burned down the mountain, and tortured and killed in Ash-Shahhar; when this legitimacy was kidnapping in western Beirut; when it was kidnapping the nationalists and Muslims only; when this legitimacy assassinated Halim Taqi ad-Din. We will never forget this. We do not want this forged legitimacy. We do not want the legitimacy which kills in Iqlim al-Kharrub, the southern suburb, and the mountain — the legitimacy which does not recognize the people of the south. We want a just legitimacy. We want a legitimacy for all. If they tell us that the Army will be entering the eastern suburb, we know very well that it will only be a farce. This Army will not enter the monasteries. Let us say it frankly. Let us speak frankly and objectively. This Army will not enter the monasteries or the headquarters of this cursed ruling party. The Army will not enter to take away their fascist and murderous weapons. Thus, why should we hand over our weapons? Do any of you willingly give your neck to this butcher? [shouts of "no" are heard accompanied by applause]

Let us say it frankly. Why are the nationalist brigades — the 6th Brigade, the 11th Brigade, and the 1st Brigade in the Al-Biq'a' — not supplied with weapons? What guarantee is there when weapons come from the United States — and we know that there is a big arms consignment of tanks, artillery, armored personnel carriers, and ammunition — that they will be delivered to these brigades? These weapons are earmarked for East Beirut in order to increase firing power there. But let them know that whatever arms they bring, whatever foreign fleets, Jewish, U.S., or other fleets they bring, the people are stronger. These poor people have proved in the southern suburb, in Iqlim al-Kharrub, in the

Ash-Shuf, in the mountain, and everywhere, through the valiant Lebanese national resistance that they are stronger than this rancorous regime.

We shall give the political solution every chance. I have already said that I will not be the first to start any fighting. But if we are being forced to fight, we shall fight to defend our dignity, our existence, the Arabism of this country, and the Muslims of this country. The plot has been continuing since 1975 in an attempt to destroy the Arab and Islamic presence in this country and to establish a radical Phalangist Christian statelet. Any talk to the contrary is wrong.

Some Christians who came out against this Phalangist plan were killed; some others were displaced. The example of Sulayman Franjiyah is before us. They killed [his son] Tony Franjiyah. Why did they kill him? Because he opposed the Phalangist-Israeli option. This is a fact. Raymond Iddih is living in exile. The nationalist Christians are displaced, and being persecuted in our areas, in West Beirut, and everywhere. Comrades in the popular Army, comrades in arms in the nationalist brigades, chieftains, comrades in Iqlim al-Kharrub, the suburb, and everywhere, do you want us to surrender our necks to this butcher? [applause and shouts: No, no]

The martyrdom — and I will not say the assassination — of Nadim al-Hakim was an attempt to keep the nationalist decision out of the military establishment. We are confident that the nationalist officers who represent the national and Islamic line will defend the rights of the nationalists and Muslims in this establishment. Everybody knows in this establishment — perhaps they do not speak out — that there is an injustice toward the nationalists and Muslims in the military establishment.

I have already said that we shall not be the first to start fighting. We are for peace, for the opening of roads, for a security plan that will enable the citizen to use the main roads. But we shall not accept anything short of arming the nationalist brigades. We shall not accept the presence of the Lebanese Army in the nationalist areas in the mountain.

[Words indistinct], you and your comrades have today joined the long caravan of martyrs, beginning with Ma'ruf Sa'd, Kamal Junblatt, and ending with the thousands of martyrs in the suburb, Iqlim al-Kharrub, and in our steadfast south. Peace be upon you.

Junblatt Prefers 'Chaos to Dictatorship'

NC241257 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Walid Junblatt, the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] leader, today spoke to a group of journalists and correspondents in Al-Mukhtarah. Speaking on the security plan and the conditions of the military establishment, he said: They are trying to reach the mountain peacefully through the security plan after having failed to do so militarily. We are insisting that the 6th, 1st, and 11th Brigades be armed. Why are they talking about security plans for the mountain before seriously discussing the issue of the south?

Walid Junblatt added: The crocodile tears shed by some about the south are not convincing. He said: We will not allow the Army to enter deep into our regions before the issue of the south is discussed. We want a correct balancing of equipment, positions, and armaments in the Army.

Walid Junblatt added: There is a military dictatorship rule in the eastern sector of Beirut. I do not intend to go to B'abda and the [Cabinet] meeting could be held in Bikfayya.

Regarding the issue of reforms, Walid Junblatt said: The political reforms agreed on at Lausanne have not been discussed so far. We fully agree with Brother Nabih Birri that the authority believes that it is in its interest if Israel remains in the south. If security arrangements are necessary, then we are convinced that Lebanon cannot alone bear the consequences of the Palestinian fedayeen action on its soil. Hence, there must be a unified plan with the Arab brothers, with Syria, and with Jordan. This shows the importance of discussing as soon as possible the issue of security arrangements. We say that the authority's pretenses for the security plan are ridiculous because basic discussions should deal with the south. Any other discussion delays the liberation of the south and the lifting of the yoke of occupation. In view of this, we cannot hand over the mountain regions to the Army, nor can we hand over our weapons to this army.

Walid Junblatt explained what is really going on in the eastern sectors. He said: There are in those areas militias affiliated with the Lebanese Forces and the Phalange. There are militias affiliated with the presidency in one form or another. This is in addition to the known privileges, facilities, and taxes.

Walid Junblatt stressed on the other hand that he will not be the first to open fire in any confrontation. He said: We want to keep our weapons. We know the extent of the relationship among the legitimate authority, the Phalange, and the Phalangist Maronite canton since 1975. Why are they insisting today on climbing the mountain and entering western Beirut? Why do they want to dominate the Sunnite, Shi'ite, and Druze communities and to expand and enlarge the Christian canton? He added: Any partitioned state [dawlatin taqsimiyah] will not be able to exist no matter what its affiliation. In this case, I prefer chaos to dictatorship — to the one-party and one-family rule.

Regarding the issue of the kidnapped persons, Walid Junblatt said: I have declared my stand. I do not have any kidnapped persons.

Answering a question by a correspondent on the Hezbollah and the religious movements, Walid Junblatt said: It is legitimate for the Muslims to have religious movements. If some people consider these movements extreme, then the Christians have similar movements in addition to the extremist thinking of the Maronite priesthood and other circles in the eastern sector, such as in Al-Kaslik. I have recently read an important statement by Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah. I saw that his viewpoint is reasonable and objective and not — as the authority is trying

to depict this party and this trend — extremist, imported, or illogical. He added: Lebanon is a democratic country where all political and religious trends are allowed. If there is one who is an extremist, let him address the accusation to the Phalange Party and the Al-Kaslik circles which are not only extremist but also racist in their religious and national outlook.

VOL: Junblatt Expected To Escalate Political Situation
NC250651 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT
 25 Aug 84

[Text] Informed sources expect Minister Walid Junblatt to continue to escalate the political situation in order to reach a deadlock with the regime. These sources do not exclude the possibility that Junblatt might launch a new attack against the regime and government during the funeral of Major General Nadim al-Hakim today. Junblatt's objective is to bring the situation to a head, and, consequently, to hint at his resignation after having found himself surrounded.

According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon this morning, Junblatt received a message from a Syrian intelligence officer yesterday, pointing out that the political escalation, which almost led to a military escalation, harms Syrian interests and commitments, and that Syria pledged to close the security file and open the political file in Lebanon. The message speaks of the existence of a red line, which Syria permits no one to exceed.

Sources say Syrian permitted Junblatt to escalate the political situation to a certain extent, in order to contain the activities of [Druze spiritual leader] Muhammad Abu Shaqra and some regional groups.

There were telephone contacts between Junblatt and Nabih Birri last night. They discussed the political situation. Minister Birri was quoted as saying: Minister Junblatt has gone too far. We cannot go along with him because we cannot bear the consequences of this stand.

Junblatt Discusses Mountain Security Plan
NC260948 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic
 to Lebanon 0900 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] In an interview with the U.S. *LOS ANGELES* magazine [as heard] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt said the mountain security plan, as envisaged by the government, aims, one way or the other, to occupy and control our areas. If this takes place, Junblatt said, they will be sure of controlling Beirut without making any concessions in their own areas.

Junblatt added: It does not make any difference whether the Lebanese Army, the Lebanese Forces, or Amin al-Jumayyil's militias — Al-Jumayyil has his own militias — are in control in their areas. The Lebanese Army will not, in my opinion, collect weapons from the Christians. Let us face it: The Phalangist command will keep its weapons. Why, then, should they come to our areas and take our weapons? This is where we say no. We are back to September 1983. These are the same signs.

Sham'un Comments on Issue of Mountain Evacuees
NC240928 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0845 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] [Former] President Camille Sham'un today expressed astonishment over Muhammad Abu Shaqra's advice to Christians not to press for their return to the mountain. He said there is an inclination among all trends toward returning all evacuees — Christians and others — to their areas. Hence, Sham'un added: It has become imperative for me to meet soon with Minister Junblatt in order to work out solutions that would please all sides, because I reject the hasty conclusions from statements and negative stands, which are being made from various sides.

Replying to a question, Sham'un said: I cannot find any secret behind the cancellation of tomorrow's Cabinet meeting. Duty calls on us to meet in order to resolve all the pending issues.

Sham'un expressed his utmost regret for the helicopter's crash, which was caused by fate and divine decree — the crash that claimed the lives of able and experienced officers. These officers, Sham'un said, should have used land transport due to the riskiness of air transport in that area.

Reportage on Aftermath of Attack on Saudi Consulate

Fire Extinguished

NC241624 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1550 GMT
24 Aug 84

[Text] According to a security report, demonstrators set fire to the Saudi Consulate on Bliss Street in the Al-Hamra' area this afternoon after surrounding the building and stopping traffic outside it.

Firemen and civil defense personnel rushed to the area and extinguished the fire, which destroyed part of the consulate's interior. The number of demonstrators was estimated at 2,000 men and women.

Karami 'Indignant'

NC242035 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT
24 Aug 84

[Text] Prime Minister Karami has expressed his indignation over the aggression on the Saudi Consulate in the western sector of Beirut. He has asked the internal security forces director general to initiate a quick investigation to pinpoint responsibility for the security breach, which enabled the demonstrators to reach the consulate. Karami's indignation is due to the fact that he persuaded Saudi Arabia to reopen its embassy in Beirut.

Skaf Denounces Attack

NC251348 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT
25 Aug 84

[Text] Joseph Skaf, minister of information and acting minister of interior, accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel 'Adnan Ghutayni, commander of the Police Emergency Squad, and Captain Nabil Mir'i and Captain Naji Damaj from the Hubaysh Squad, at noon today inspected the Saudi Consulate building and saw the damage caused to it as a result of what happened yesterday. Minister Skaf met with Saudi Charge d'Affaires Abu Bakr Rafi' in the presence of embassy Information Counselor Mushtaq Ma'ruf and expressed his strong denunciation of the incident.

Islamic Jihad: Attack 'First Warning'

NC241846 Paris AFP in English 1843 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Beirut, Aug 24 (AFP) — The Islamic Jihad organisation today threatened to attack Saudi Arabian interests throughout the Moslem world, if it did not ease travel to Mecca for pilgrims.

The organisation said in a phone call to a foreign press agency here that an attack on the Saudi Consulate here today was a "first warning to the reactionary regime, allied to the United States, which secretly supports the Zionist state."

Jihad said the Saudi throne would have been overthrown but for French and U.S. support.

The Saudi Arabian Consulate in West Beirut was raided and set on fire today by members of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah Party, police here said.

The raiders struck after mingling with a demonstration outside the consulate by hundreds of Lebanese Shia Moslems angry at being refused visas to make the pilgrimage to Mecca.

Saudi Arabia Authorizes Pilgrims' Visas

NC250557 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT
25 Aug 84

[Text] Saudi Charge d'Affaires Abu Bakr Rafi' contacted the Middle East Airlines [MEA] deputy chairman and official in charge of public relations last night and told him that King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz ordered Saudi authorities to grant entry visas to 6,000 Lebanese nationals, who wish to perform the pilgrimage rites, at King 'Abd al-'Aziz Airport in Jiddah. The order provides that passenger lists for each aircraft should be submitted to the public security organ in Beirut and the prime minister's office for approval. It also provides that the MEA should coordinate the trips with Saudi civil aviation authorities.

UK Envoy Meets Ministry Official on Consulate Attack
NC251836 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT
 25 Aug 84

[Text] The acting Foreign Ministry secretary general today received British Charge d'Affaires Richard Palmer and discussed with him yesterday's attack on the British consulate in Beirut and the measures which must be taken to strengthen security at the British Embassy building.

Birri Comments on Political Situation in Interview
NC241000 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English
 20-26 Aug 84 pp 25-28

["Text" of interview with Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs and minister of water and electrical resources and justice, by *MONDAY MORNING* correspondent Sadra Maleh — date and place not given]

[Text] [Maleh] Two months after winning a parliamentary confidence vote, the government is still mainly a higher security commission. Why hasn't the government opened the political "file" yet and reconsidered legislative decrees?

[Birri] The question of whether precedence should be given to politics or security has been heatedly debated in the past. Actually, politics could not possibly be discussed against a background of bloodshed, fighting and shelling. This justified the formation of the government of national unity, which was to halt bombing and bloodshed, as a preliminary to political discussions. Consequently the first security step was taken, and it succeeded to a limited extent.

Political steps should be taken subsequently in order to reinforce security. Frankly, political understanding should precede the application of security by several stages, or at least go hand-in-hand with it. Otherwise, both are doomed to fail. The delay in government accomplishments today might be due to the fact that security moves were neither preceded nor accompanied by political understanding.

[Maleh] A politician told me in an interview that the reason for this and other delays was the lack of understanding and agreement among the present members of the government. What is your position on this issue?

[Birri] I don't know why this matter is regarded as a shortcoming in the government. I consider disagreements as something natural. Besides, this government bears no resemblance to preceding governments and disagreement is a wholesome indicator. These disagreements, however, should not spoil the friendship between the ministers or cause the break-up of the Cabinet. Moreover, we should pursue our debates and discussions until we agree on balanced equations which will provide the basis for stability in the country.

[Maleh] Do you think that security will be achieved through increasing the number of forces responsible for keeping law and order or through political understanding between the concerned

factions, especially the factions that are part of the present government? How do you explain the failure to expand the scope of implementation of the security plan to cover the whole of Lebanon?

[Birri] Security in Lebanon is the result of political understanding. For example, 2,000 soldiers would not be able to ensure security at Galerie Sim'an in the absence of political understanding. If it prevails, only five soldiers would be needed to do the job. This is the way to measure and evaluate in this country. Security, particularly in the first stage, will be achieved by mutual consent. Any other talk of security imposed by force is out of step with the reality of the Lebanese situation.

[Maleh] Does mutual consent imply making any concessions on the part of any faction?

[Birri] Mutual consent implies political understanding.

[Maleh] Does political understanding imply making any concessions?

[Birri] All should make concessions in the interest of Lebanon. This interest, in our opinion, requires, at least, the abolition of political sectarianism in Lebanon, which we have only partially achieved. However we consider even that to be a positive step towards the ultimate goal.

Security, therefore, should be the outcome of political understanding and should be based on mutual consent, in the hope that it would evolve into the security for the Lebanese citizen and the country, which would be nation-wide security. This condition has not been reached yet due to several considerations, the most important of which is the fact that the South is cut off from the rest of Lebanon. We have tried to take steps that would lead to the opening of the coastal road to the South.

[Maleh] Since you took office, you have met with several European delegates and foreign ambassadors. Have you asked the American Government to act as an intermediary between Lebanon and Israel concerning security arrangements in the South?

[Birri] We don't know what kind of policies the American Government is pursuing right now, prior to the American elections. So far, it has been American policy to fully support Israel and to refuse to assume any intermediary role between Lebanon and Israel following the abrogation of the May 17 accord, as if this abrogation were the "end of the world" for America! The conclusion of this accord exacerbated the problems of Lebanon instead of solving them. The American Government is not in the least willing to act as an intermediary, and so far, it has behaved as an Israeli partisan.

I questioned the American ambassador (Reginald Bartholomew), during our last meeting, about the (violation of) human rights and the American position on the issues of the Batir road, the plundering of Tyre's antiquities, the seizure of Lebanese territory around the Al-Wazzani River, the diggings in Baruk and western Al-Biq'a, and the plight of the thousands of people arrested and imprisoned in Ansar prison camp. I had to question the American ambassador about the position of his government on these issues.

However, should the slightest thing be said or done against Israel it would prompt the press spokesmen and the official spokesmen of the State Department and the White House to issue strong condemnations.

[Maleh] Do you have a conception of the security arrangements in the south and west Al-Biq'a? What is your position towards setting up a buffer zone similar to the one in the Golan Heights?

[Birri] The term "security arrangements" now has connotations and meanings which differ from the ones initially given to it. If the implication of the term is ensuring Israel's security in Galilee, then this is not our responsibility for "the lamb is not responsible for the security of the wolf." Moreover, international law and international conventions do not recognize any formula of that kind. If the security of every country is made the responsibility of a neighboring country or of another country, this would imply that every country would have to have security positions in Russia and America, since they possess rockets that can hit any point in the world.

We are responsible for security in the south, if this is what "security arrangements" mean, just as we are responsible for security in Beirut and Tripoli and in any other region of Lebanon.

Israel should withdraw from the south and conform to the UN Security Council Resolutions 425, 508 and 509 on this issue. In addition, we could ask the Council to increase the size of the international force in the south. I don't think any country will oppose this request, particularly after the discussions I had with Soviet officials in Moscow, who promised me they would reconsider their position on this matter.

This is what we can do right now, and Israel should just leave us alone and let us solve our own problems.

[Maleh] How can we possibly refute Israel's claim that it seeks to prevent the infiltration of "saboteurs" from Lebanese territory into Israel?

[Birri] If the reference here is to the Palestinians, then it should be kept in mind that the Palestinians are a people who were expelled from their land and they have the right to regain it. However, let us be frank: the people of the south have paid a very high price and we have repeatedly advocated, in vain, the formulation of a unified Arab strategy regarding the south. The security of south Lebanon is the security of Lebanon, not the security of Israel or of anybody else. We will never tolerate any situation which might have negative repercussions on the situation in the south. In other words, the southerners refuse entry of any armed Palestinian into the south. But first and foremost, Israel should withdraw, in keeping with the Security Council resolutions.

[Maleh] Do you and President Amin al-Jumayyil share common grounds?

[Birri] There are no differences between President al-Jumayyil and myself on external affairs and on the unity of Lebanon and its liberation (from foreign occupying forces). However, there are still many differences between us, particularly on the internal

level. We have started holding private sessions together in order to overcome obstacles and to narrow or remove differences between us and to reach deeper understanding. The president supports the unity of Lebanon and the liberation of the south, west Al-Biq'a and Rashayya.

[Maleh] How do you evaluate your relationship with Minister Walid Junblatt?

[Birri] Malicious attempts are being made to convey the impression that there are disagreements between Minister Walid Junblatt and myself. I don't know why. This is being done. Any disagreement between any two factions, especially between Junblatt and myself, is not in the interest of the country. As a matter of fact, ever since we concluded an alliance and issued a joint statement in Damascus, the relationship between Junblatt and myself has been fine. Let everybody be aware of this fact, once and for all.

[Maleh] How do you reconcile your advocacy of the abolition of political sectarianism with present proceedings of the Council of Ministers, particularly the appointment of the Military Council, in which case every minister was given the right to name the officer of his sect whom he deemed appropriate?

[Birri] This was an act of treason against the "new Lebanon." I say this very frankly, and I was strongly opposed to it. Sometimes, however, one is forced to go along with what is inevitable. In such cases those whose opinions are not accepted have no say.

Frankly, we did not demand the setting-up of a Directorate of State Security in order to achieve balance in security. This was not our demand; it was a compromise designed to resolve existing demands. All [we] asked for was that the Army commander be appointed on the basis of merit rather than sectarianism, which would allow the other sects to appoint their representatives. This would mean that the Army commander, who could have been General 'Awn himself, would have been appointed on the basis of capability and qualifications, not because he is a Maronite. This is what happened with respect to the Military Council.

There will be no problems if the Army commander's sectarian affiliation has nothing to do with his appointment. I do not approve of the distribution of posts according to sectarian affiliation. I tried so hard to overcome this issue that I was branded the obstructor of any progress in the Council of Ministers. The public is aware that no progress was made on this issue despite four or five Cabinet sessions, each of which lasted five to six hours. The claim was that nothing else could be done at present.

We had agreed in the Lausanne conference and in the Damascus accord that there should be a confessional balance among the holders of posts of the first category, namely, between Moslem and Christian top-level office-holders. This was supposed to be a preliminary step towards abolishing political sectarianism. The members of the Military Council were regarded as being equivalent to holders of first category posts and were assigned to their posts accordingly. The truth, however, is that I had to give

in and yield in order not to hold up all Cabinet proceedings, although this was not in line with my approach. It was my view that as a matter of future policy, the Army commander and all other appointees to military posts should be appointed by mutual understanding.

[Maleh] If the security plan succeeds in opening the road from Madfoun Bridge to the Al-Awwali River, would you have any objections to a meeting between the Amal movement and the Lebanese Forces, since you have said that negotiations would not take place prior to the opening of the coastal road?

[Birri] I still maintain my position. I have even said that at that moment, I would seek to take the initiative to pay a visit.

[Maleh] You said on several occasions that the countdown of the end of the Lebanese crisis has begun. Do you still maintain this opinion and on what is it based?

[Birri] I said that following a meeting between President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Karami and myself. The first evidence of the countdown came when we unified the Army and dismantled demarcation lines. Now, at least there is no partition between the eastern and the western sectors. My opinion remains unchanged because I have discussed with President al-Jumayyil the formation of the constituent assembly, the increase of the number of deputies, government jobs, and the reactivation of the administration. Discussion of all these matters led us to an almost unified position on the south and its liberation. This is what prompted me to say that the countdown of the (end of the) Lebanese crisis has started.

[Maleh] The Shi'ite community needs a radical solution to its problem more than it needs jobs. Should there be a delay in reaching this solution, would you be able to continue in office?

[Birri] There is no such thing as the so-called "problem of the Shi'ite community." However, in Lebanon every issue is put in a sectarian context. What is the problem of the Shi'ite community? Deprivation? What is the difference between a deprived person from 'Ayn Ibil and another from Tibnin (which is my home village)? In other words, what is the difference between a deprived Sunnite and a deprived Shi'ite, or between a deprived Maronite and a deprived Druze?

The issue of the liberation of the south is not a Shi'ite issue, it is a Lebanese issue. The large number of the Shi'ites in south Lebanon, moreover, should enjoy the support of the other communities and not be a target of criticism.

Furthermore, I frequently hear that it is being said that Nabih Birri does not have "a piece of land", which is why he rejects partition. Let us, by way of example, consider the Sunnites. The Sunnites are the predominant group in West Beirut, Tripoli, Sidon, Akkar and Iqlim al-Kharrub. How can a particular area be assigned to them? The Maronites are another example. They have a "piece of land" in Kasrwan, but what will they do with the Shi'ites there? Will they expel them? What would they do with the Maronites in the south? Would they abandon them to Israel?

The Shi'ite community has no distinctive problem. What is applicable to one community is applicable to another.

Why is it that while abroad the Lebanese forget all about confessional contexts? The injection of sectarianism into every phase of life was a betrayal of the country. There are no real problems that are confined to the Shi'ite community. There are some minor ones, which are not basic.

[Maleh] What is the difference between Nabih Birri the minister and Nabih Birri the leader of the Amal movement?

[Birri] I try to be myself, be it in the ministry or in leading Amal.

[Maleh] What is your position towards the call for the replacement of Speaker Kamil al-Asad?

[Birri] This question is up to parliament to decide. The extent to which parliament is representative should be reconsidered in the light of the many changes that have occurred in the country.

[Maleh] What does Hezbollah represent and what is your relationship with that party?

[Birri] We have no relation with that party. While it might express a certain fanaticism, it is also true that such trends are also present in other sects.

[Maleh] What stage have contacts to restore the strong ties between Shaykh Muhammads Mahdi Shams ad-Din and yourself reached?

[Birri] The ties have been and still are strong.

[Maleh] What is your relationship with the Islamic Republic of Iran?

[Birri] There are no direct relations, and the reason is the distance that separates us. We would like to establish relations with the Islamic Republic.

[Maleh] What are your relations with the Phalangists and the National Liberals?

[Birri] No relations.

[Maleh] ... with the Communist Party and the Al-Murabitun?

[Birri] There has been solidarity between us and all the progressive forces ever since the Israeli invasion.

[Maleh] ... the United States?

[Birri] No relations.

[Maleh] ... the Soviet Union?

[Birri] We have good relations which we would like to develop further.

[Maleh] Is it true that you disagree with members of the older political generation, including Shi'ite leaders?

[Birri] Yes.

[Maleh] Does your disagreement with Shi'ite leaders imply that there has been a change in the Shi'ite leadership?

[Birri] Exactly.

Karami, Al-Jumayyil Weekly Meeting Postponed
NC250916 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] It has been learned that the weekly meeting, which was scheduled to be held between President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami at B'abda Palace today, was postponed until next week.

VOL Says Cabinet Meetings Contingent on Junblatt
NC250551 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] The cancellation of Cabinet sessions has become contingent upon Minister Walid Junblatt's whimsical behavior, despite Prime Minister Rashid Karami's attempts to prove that the cancellation of today's session is because of the funeral of the chief of the staff and the commander of the 7th Brigade.

Minister Junblatt's provocative stands preceded the cancellation. He attacked the government and stressed that he will neither attend the Cabinet meetings in B'abda nor will he allow the Army to deploy in the mountain until after southern Lebanon has been liberated from Israeli occupation and a balance has been ensured in the military establishment.

Certain sources did not exclude the possibility that Junblatt might attack the government today.

Al-Kasm Addresses Syrian Students in Bucharest*JN241913 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT
24 Aug 84*

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm has affirmed that Syria's political achievements have astonished our enemies even more than our friends. He also affirmed that Syria's triumph — party, people, and leader — was a triumph for all the Arab nation. During a meeting in Bucharest yesterday with Syrian students who are studying in Romania, in the presence of Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar', Dr al-Kasm said: The Syrian people can never be defeated because they have decided to rely on themselves, their experiences, production, and economy. He said the Syrian people now are stronger and firmer in defending their objectives of unity, freedom, and socialism.

During the meeting, the prime minister answered students' questions on various political, economic, and development issues. He affirmed that Syria gave thousands of martyrs in confronting the Zionist invasion of Lebanon and the U.S. and NATO intervention there and in foiling the 17 May agreement. He said: Our country shouldered all the material burdens to achieve its political victories. Israel had sought to fragment Lebanon and strike at Syria, but the consequences changed. Therefore, we say that the battles cost us a great deal, but Syria's triumph was strong, overwhelming. Lebanon will ultimately become united and independent with security and stability prevailing.

The prime minister added that Syria's political struggle progressed hand in hand with the economic struggle. Thus, the development plans follow a normal course. Dr al-Kasm spoke about Syria's economic development, particularly in the industrial, agricultural, and development fields. He affirmed that Syria, since the corrective movement, has been built on objective foundations through the efforts of all workers and producers in light of the successive development plans and President Hafiz al-Asad's accurate directives. Dr al-Kasm added: Syria has achieved a firm economic foundation that is unaffected by passing circumstances. Naturally, international economic upheavals will occur. However, Syria's economy is too strong to be shaken. In spite of hostile campaigns, the economic facts about industry, agriculture, and services in our country are clear and prominent and a source of pride for the people and party.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the representatives of the Syrian students addressed to President Hafiz al-Asad a cable of loyalty and allegiance and commitment to the objectives of the party, revolution, and the leader of the victory and liberation march.

Al-Kasm Returns From Romania*JN251832 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT
25 Aug 84*

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, accompanied by Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' and Communications Minister Ra'fat al-Kurdi, returned to Damascus from Romania this evening.

Damascus on Reagan's Convention Remarks*JN241939 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT
24 Aug 84*

[Text] Dallas — U.S. President Ronald Reagan has renewed the United States' pledge not to abandon Israel. Addressing the Republican Party convention, Reagan called on Americans to give him a landslide victory in the presidential election, which will take place on 6 November. Reagan, who strongly criticized his opponent Walter Mondale, claimed that the forthcoming election offers the clearest choice in half a century between two concepts of the future and two totally different methods of leadership.

Reagan defended his armament program in the United States. In this regard, the *WASHINGTON POST* said that the leaders of the Zionist movement attending the Republican national convention expect Reagan to be the best Republican candidate who will win the majority of Zionist votes in the election. They see him as a better supporter of Israel. During the 1980 election, Reagan captured 40 percent of the Zionist votes, an extraordinary figure.

Cabinet Discusses Unemployment, Security

TA261124 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1015 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Report by Me'ir Einstein — live from the prime minister's office, Jerusalem, and Shim'on Schiffer, live in studio]

[Text][Einstein] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi was the one who raised the issue of unemployment for discussion by the Cabinet. It was a short discussion. The deputy prime minister said they must fight against this grave phenomenon of unemployment, which has been increasing during the last few months.

He also proposed that the Cabinet postpone its decision on the issue of a freeze on contracts [referring to new government ministry contracts] concerning those influencing employment in the development towns. He also proposed freezing aid grants to investors who are prepared to invest in industry in the development towns.

That was Deputy Prime Minister David Levi, and his remarks brought in their wake a sharp reaction from Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad. He presented data to those present at the session, data which, in his opinion, indicate that the problem is not so grave. Well, there was a short confrontation between the deputy prime minister and the finance minister. At the end of the session, we heard Minister of Labor and Social Welfare Aharon Uzan:

[Begin recording] [Uzan] Altogether, we can say that there are pockets of unemployment, worrisome pockets of unemployment in the far north and far south. I hope that the budgetary and economics committee [as heard] will meet this very week and then there will be practical proposals from everyone who makes them, as he sees fit to propose them. [end recording]

[Schiffer] Perhaps we will add some details. At the beginning of the Cabinet session, the Cabinet heard detailed reports today about what is happening in Lebanon, about the attacks, about the sources of the attacks. The head of the IDF Intelligence Branch, Israel's coordinator of activities in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, and senior officers appeared before the Cabinet. This discussion was held within the framework of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs.

However, let us, perhaps, add two piquant [last word in English] issues that were raised at the session. Dr Yosef Burg, who is in charge of police and internal affairs, brought the ministers pictures of the room in which the flag has been put in the Temple Mount and said, after all, there is no question at all of a flag being put outside the building, but inside a room, and the remarks were received with hearty laughter by the ministers.

Another matter that was related today to the ministers by Dr Yosef Burg was about Knesset members' [MK's] attempts to enter the Tel Mond prison. During the session, he received several phone calls on this matter. He reported to the ministers, saying he would not permit the MK's to enter the Tel Mond prison today because it could lead to a general revolt of prisoners against prisoners.

Peres Receives 21-day Extension From Herzog

TA261048 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1010 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Shim'on Peres has just emerged from a meeting with the president. Our correspondent Ze'ev Hasper is at the president's residence.

[Hasper] Well, Shim'on Peres is now speaking in English. He has just emerged from the president's residence. The president granted him another 21 days and we will now listen to what he has to say:

[Alan Ben-'Ami — in English] Mr Peres, if you can't put together a national unity government, will you put together a narrow-based government and present this to the Knesset?

[Peres — in English] I wouldn't like to go to any further declarations. My job is quite complicated without unnecessary declarations and I shall satisfy myself...

[Hasper — interrupting] Mr Peres, in Hebrew, please. We are broadcasting for the IDF Radio.

[Peres] I have just come from the president's residence. I reported to the president of Israel about the attempts that have been made over the past 21 days to form a government and, as requested by the president, as broad a government as possible, a national unity government. It is well known that our map is very divided and there truly are ideological and political differences of opinion between the two main parties, and they are deep-rooted. Over these 21 days there has been appreciable progress; not that anyone conceded his views and not that we tried to blur the differences of opinion, but we looked for — and, to a great extent, we also found — methods and means that will permit the two main parties to work together, despite the differences, in spite of the differences of opinion themselves. In fact, we have arrived at such conclusions [sikumim], in most of the main fields of our life; religion, the economic issues, the issue of Lebanon, the political issues, and the continuation of the peace process, and it is my feeling that despite the difficulties, a serious attempt has indeed been made by all parties to make it possible to establish as broad a government as possible, a national unity government. I asked the president of the state, in accordance with the law, for another 21 days to continue with these attempts. I hope we will be able to succeed in this and the president was kind enough to grant my request.

[Hasper] Will you need the entire 21 days?

[Peres] I will not speculate. I can only promise you one thing: I will not waste a moment of the time at my disposal.

[Hasper] Well, we have just heard that the president has given Shim'on Peres a 21-day extension. The president granted the extension on the basis of his absolute legal right to decide. Precedents were reviewed and no case was found in which a president had refused to grant an extension to a candidate for the premiership. Furthermore, the president believes there has been progress toward establishing a government, all the more so because the blocking bloc [gush hosem] won by the Alignment in the wake of Weizman's incorporation gave Peres yet another

advantage. Before the meeting we were told that Mr Herzog would again emphasize to Mr Peres the urgent need to establish a government, with priority to be given to a national unity government.

Shamir-Peres 24 Aug Meeting Summarized

TA241142 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir will hold another meeting early next week. Our correspondent Sha'ul Stav reports on their meeting this morning at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem:

[Begin recording] [Stav] Room number 622 at the King David Hotel hosted another meeting between Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir, with the declared goal still being the establishment of a national unity government. At the beginning of the meeting, Peres told Shamir jokingly: The papers have probably already published what we will be saying to each other, so we might as well sit down and read the papers. We can, however, also talk.

The two men thus indeed conversed, for 2 and 3/4 hours. They agreed not to report details of the meeting, so that it would be possible to continue substantive negotiations. We heard Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir say the following:

[Peres] The parliamentary map is more divided than it has ever been in the annals of this country. I view the difficulties that still lie in our way with eyes quite open. Incidentally, these problems confront each one of us — not just one party or the other. I believe the hurdles can be overcome, that it is possible to set up a government, and that a national unity government should be established. However, we still have a great many issues to debate and decide upon.

[Shamir] Some progress was achieved on a few subjects; regarding the others we will have to consult with our colleagues — each one of us with his own colleagues. It was agreed that we will hold another meeting early next week.

[Stav] The new proposals that were raised at the meeting probably have to do with the two main topics that are still unresolved: the settlements and inviting Jordan to the negotiations. The personal issues have likewise remained, and there is no agreement on them. Shim'on Peres repeated his opposition to the idea of rotating the post of prime minister. Peres and Shamir will meet again early next week, and over the weekend each one of them will confer with his fellow leaders in preparation for the new summit.

By the way, on Sunday Shim'on Peres will ask the president for a 21-day extension to continue to try to set up a government.

After his conversation with Peres, the prime minister launched a series of meetings in his office. He conferred with the Morasha members, and right now is scheduled to meet with the Tehiya representatives. These are part of the Likud's efforts to fortify its own camp. If the links are tightened, two blocs of exactly equal strength will face one another. [end recording]

Shamir Expresses Optimism Over Unity Talks

TA241256 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Following his meeting with Shim'on Peres, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that progress was made during their meeting, and expressed optimism over the chances of successfully concluding the negotiations for a broadly based government. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that this is the gist of the prime minister's message to delegations from Tehiya, SHAS, and Morasha, with which he met after his meeting with Peres in order to report to them on the progress in the negotiations. The SHAS and Morasha delegates encouraged Shamir to set up a broadly based government, but Knesset Member Ge'ula Kohen of Tehiya, on the other hand, expressed concern over the increasing closeness between the Likud and the Alignment.

Shamir Views Weizman, Rotating Premiership

TA241918 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Following his talks with Shim'on Peres, prime minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that the Likud and the Alignment are approaching an agreement. Peres, Shamir said, well understands both the Likud's needs and its views. If his Alignment colleagues accept this attitude, it will be possible to establish a government shortly. In Shamir's opinion there is complete equality between the Likud and the Alignment and this equality must also be reflected in the next government. A rotating premiership may be necessary, he said.

Yitzhaq Shamir repeated his comment that Weizman's agreement with the Alignment is a ploy, and said that he did not want to comment on Weizman's ethics nor his lack of principles. This was a ploy, he said, and it will not help promote a national unity government. It is unthinkable for a three-member Knesset faction to have the power to affect the unity talks. Shamir was interviewed on television this evening.

Alignment, Likud Coalition Agreement Reported

TA252002 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Live report by political correspondent Yoram Ronen]

[Text] Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir have agreed that the Alignment and the Likud will have an equal number of ministers in a national unity government. If, for instance, the Alignment has 10 ministers, including the prime minister, the Likud will have 10 ministers as well. The Likud has not officially given up the idea of rotating the premiership between Shamir and Peres, but it may reach a compromise with the Alignment and agree that Shim'on Peres will become prime minister on condition that the Likud receives the defense and foreign affairs portfolios. It is doubtful whether the Alignment is ready to give up the defense portfolio and content itself with the premiership and the finance portfolio. The Likud says that during the national unity talks held by Shamir a year ago, it agreed to give up the defense and foreign affairs portfolios in favor of the Alignment.

Peres and Shamir apparently also agreed yesterday that only the Alignment and the Likud will have portfolios in the national unity government. The small parties will have to be content with being ministers without portfolios, deputy ministers, and Knesset committee chairmen.

The Alignment, particularly MAPAM members, tonight expressed their fear that in a government in which the Alignment and the Likud are totally equal, a stalemate will develop and political initiatives such as negotiations with Jordan will be shelved.

In addition, other parties will have to cope with difficult problems if such a government is established. It is doubtful whether Agudat Yisra'el will be guaranteed an amendment to the Who Is a Jew law. The Tehiya party will then have to support a government committed to implementing the Camp David accords. A national unity government is still a long way away.

The Likud believes it is preferable to torpedo the negotiations over an ideological issue, such as the future of the settlements, rather than the distribution of portfolios.

The possibility of a minority government led by Peres and including RAKAH and the Progressive List for Peace still exists. The Alignment believes that such a government would survive for only a few months and then new elections would have to be held.

In that event, the Alignment and the Likud have already agreed to raise the minimum quota for parties to win Knesset seats to 3 or 4 percent. In the next elections there will be two large blocs, the Alignment and the Likud, and probably also a third bloc made up of the religious parties.

By the end of this week we will know if the extension Shim'on Peres will receive from the president will lead to a national unity government, or a narrowly-based government and new elections.

Peres Denies Agreement

TA261720 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Shim'on Peres and Yitzhak Shamir have talked about changing the electoral system but so far they have not reached any conclusions. The Labor Party chairman told this to our correspondent Ze'ev Hasper in response to reports that an agreement to raise the minimum quota had been reached. Let us hear what Shim'on Peres has to say.

[Begin recording][Peres] The report is not exact. We talked about the need to change the electoral system including the minimum quota, but so far we have not reached any conclusions.

[Hasper] I understand that raising the minimum quota is a very easy step to take. Do you intend to start with this issue?

[Peres] I do not know. There are other problems as well linked to the Israeli electoral system. Moreover, I prefer making a statement after the fact and not before. [end recording]

Denial of Agreement Repeated

TA261419 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1339 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] The Likud ministers are not ready to give up the idea of rotating the premiership. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that those participating in consultations at the prime minister's office said that Shim'on Peres' proposal for parity between the Alignment and the Likud in a national unity government should also take into account the premiership issue. An equal distribution of portfolios between the representatives of the two large parties is not enough. After the session, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi told reporters that the issue of the premiership had not yet been discussed by Peres and Shamir, and that the two parties would have to decide this without pressure in talks to be held tomorrow.

Peres, Weizman Planning Diplomatic Initiatives

TA261533 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Aug 84 p 1

[Report by party affairs correspondent Amnon Barzilay]

[Excerpt] Shim'on Peres and Ezer Weizman have discussed establishing a narrow coalition government supported by 61 Knesset members, based on support from the Progressive List for Peace and HADASH, which would call for early elections. Such a government would allow Peres to serve as prime minister for 6 months.

It has been learned that Weizman and Peres discussed the possibility that during this period Weizman would undertake far-reaching political initiatives as foreign minister, such as returning the Egyptian ambassador to Israel, beginning negotiations with King Husayn, sending feelers out on renewing diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, and attempting to approach Beijing.

In the talks between Peres and Weizman, it was assessed that a national unity government is not possible, and that if the political establishment reaches a dead end in the attempt to form a government it will be necessary to call for early elections. Therefore, the two decided that in this case Peres would have to have the support of 61 Knesset members within a very short period of time in order to be able to establish a government he would head.

The two discussed steps such a government would be able to carry out within the time period before an election is held. They agreed that the main arena would be foreign affairs and security, the first step being a phased IDF withdrawal from Lebanon. The two assessed that such a step would melt the frozen relations with Egypt, leading to the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv and to a renewal of talks with Egypt. In this connection, it was learned that last weekend elements connected with the Egyptian Government called and expressed an interest in Weizman's step and his joining the Alignment as a bloc. The next step would be an initiative to bring Husayn to the negotiating table with the Israeli Government. One of the suggestions raised was an interim arrangement on territorial issues with Husayn similar to the interim agreement between Israel and Egypt of 1975.

It was also learned that in his talks with Peres, Weizman raised far-reaching ideas for political initiatives meant to bring about the resumption of relations with Moscow and for approaching Beijing.

Weizman said that personal weight and charisma can have great influence, just as they influenced the move to approach Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat, and lowered the level of mutual suspicions in the talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations. Weizman and Peres considered that a new Israeli Middle East political initiative would enable Israel to receive generous U.S. financial aid, which would be given as a reward for holding the talks and would not be dependent upon their results. If this assessment proves to be true, then burning economic problems could be solved and unemployment avoided.

Alignment's Current Views on National Unity

TA270733 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0505 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Illana Dayan report — recorded]

[Excerpt] Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir will hold a decisive meeting today which will either result in a dramatic breakthrough or in a deadlock. Shim'on Peres will bring to the meeting the comments by his Alignment colleagues on the remarks he heard from the prime minister at the last meeting. The Labor Party categorically rejects any discussion of the rotation proposal, at least for the time being. If an ad-hoc government is formed, Peres will apparently say: I will be the first prime minister in Israel's history who does not enjoy a majority in his Cabinet. As such a prime minister is neutralized to a large degree, the next demand is to give Yitzhaq Rabin the defense portfolio.

These are the opening positions for today's talks. To these, one should add the new formula on the settlement issue which Peres will bring to the meeting: The establishment of new settlements will be decided in this egalitarian Cabinet by a simple majority. It was learned that the bone of contention in the last Peres-Shamir meeting concerned the implementation of decisions by the outgoing Cabinet, namely, whether or not the national unity government will set up settlements decided upon by the Likud government.

In any event, a knowledgeable source in the Labor Party admitted to us this morning that Peres' bargaining ability weakened in the wake of the meeting with the MAPAM leaders yesterday evening. The MAPAM Center is meeting this week to decide on its continued political road.

However, the bottom line has remained the same: MAPAM is giving the Labor Party a mandate to continue the negotiations with the Likud and will determine its position according to the basic guidelines and composition of the national unity government, if it is indeed formed.

The Labor Party explained that behind the meeting with MAPAM lay the fact that opposition is no longer on the agenda, leaving the choice between a broad-based government or elections.

Alignment on Likud Demand To Rotate Premiership

TA261702 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] The Alignment believes that if Yitzhaq Shamir insists on rotating the premiership in a unity government in tomorrow's meeting with Shim'on Peres, the talks will end in failure. This is noted by our correspondent Amnon Nadav after consultations held this afternoon with the Alignment leaders on the one hand, and with the Likud leaders on the other. During the last hour Alignment leaders have been briefing MAPAM leaders on the negotiations and have been discussing, among other things, the issue of whether to form a narrowly-based government next week.

Our correspondent reports that Alignment leaders, including Knesset Members Aharon Har'el and David Liba'i, have recently conferred with the leaders of the Progressive List for Peace. The talks were characterized as private and unofficial.

Alignment Meets MAPAM, Likud on National Unity

TA270611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir will make another attempt to reach an agreement on forming a national unity government. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that Likud leaders empowered Shamir to conclude the distribution of Cabinet portfolios with Peres. Nevertheless, the Likud still demands equality in the distribution of portfolios, and that portfolios be given to its partners. Our correspondent believes that Yitzhaq Shamir has decided to agree that Peres first serve as prime minister, if the latter agrees to the rotation formula.

The Alignment rejects the rotation proposal and is suggesting that a reassessment of all questions concerning the national unity government be held at the end of 2 years.

There were sharp verbal exchanges yesterday during the discussion between the Labor Party and MAPAM. Yitzhaq Navon made it evident that he prefers a national unity government, even if a narrowly-based government can be formed. In contrast, Ya'aqov Hazan of MAPAM said it is impossible to cooperate in the same government with political opponents whom the Alignment attacked only a short time ago. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that the MAPAM center will discuss the party's moves on Wednesday, in view of the emerging possibility of the formation of a national unity government.

HADASH Announces Position on Coalition Talks

TA251803 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1550 GMT 25 Aug 84

["Announcement by the HADASH Spokesman" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 25 Aug (ITIM) — Remarks made recently suggest there has been a certain distancing from the anti-communist bogeyman that haunts the Israeli political leadership.

Following the results of the 11th Knesset elections, which have made it more difficult than expected for the Alignment to establish a government, the Labor Party, MAPAM, and other circles have said that in the present circumstances a narrowly-based government led by the Alignment must be established, even a minority government, on the assumption that HADASH would support this. It appears the Alignment leaders believe they have HADASH's support all sewn up, but this is not true. There is no doubt that HADASH will do anything to prevent the establishment of another Likud government. However, this does not mean its attitude toward a government consisting of the Alignment, Weizman, Hurvitz, and Abu-Hatzira, if such a government is indeed proposed, has been determined.

The important thing is the platform put forward by the proposed government. This should include the following: guarantees for an immediate withdrawal from Lebanon, acceptance of the UN secretary general's proposal to convene an international conference on peace in the Middle East, a campaign against racism, a pledge not to erode worker salaries and public services, the prevention of unemployment, and guarantees of equal rights for the Arab population.

HADASH so far has received no appeal to negotiate over the establishment of a government. The HADASH executive, therefore, has not initiated new discussions on the issue.

Tehiya's Kohen on Coalition Talks, Settlement

TA261332 Jerusalem *THE JERUSALEM POST* in English
26 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] The Likud position in the negotiations with the Alignment for a national unity coalition has not adversely affected the interests of settlement in Judaea and Samaria, Tehiya Knesset Member [MK] Ge'ula Kohen told *THE JERUSALEM POST* last night.

Hence, the five-member Tehiya faction continues to give Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir the green light to go ahead with his conversations, Kohen said. Shamir briefed a Tehiya delegation on Friday about the state of the Likud contacts with the Alignment, but said nothing directly about his tete-a-tete with Labour leader and Premier-Designate Shim'on Peres shortly before.

Kohen told *THE POST*: "The most important single issue in the national unity talks is the settlement issue. This is what Shamir said. Tehiya is very sensitive to formulas. They are crucial for foreign consumption, politically, and they are crucial for the Arab world. They are crucial educationally and politically here in Israel. So we are giving very close scrutiny to the formulas."

Shamir discussed the Alignment's prospects for forming a narrow coalition with his Tehiya colleagues, Kohen said. "We shall do all we can to prevent the shadow of a possibility that the Alignment might contemplate depending on the support of the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality and the Progressive List for Peace even for one single vote," she said ominously.

"We have seen that the Alignment is willing to pay any price to drum up support for a narrow coalition," she said. "The Alignment is willing to accept TAMI as a constituent wing, and next it will be ready to accept an Aguda wing. There are no limits to the national disgrace which the Alignment is perpetrating. Still, (TAMI's) Aharon Abu-Hatzira is holding firm just now."

Kohen said: "Ezer Weizman has put a spoke in the wheels of a national unity coalition. But he is not really to blame. Shamir holds that the parties face only one option — national unity — and so does Tehiya. But we cannot ignore the possibility of early elections." She said that MAPAM's agreement to give up a place on the next election list to a Weizman candidate proved conclusively that MAPAM's overriding wish was to block a national unity coalition today. With regard to the Knesset, Kohen said that Tehiya did not object to Labour's Abba Eban chairing the next session as interim speaker but it would not cooperate if he tried to put the election of the permanent speaker on the agenda. She did not say what Tehiya would do in that eventuality.

Kahane Threatens Expulsion of 'Akko Arabs

TA270937 Tel Aviv *'AL HAMISHMAR* in Hebrew 27 Aug 84
p 16

[Gabi Zohar report]

[Text] At a stormy demonstration held yesterday in the Rasko Square in 'Akko, Knesset Member [MK] Meir Kahane warned he would expel all 'Akko Arabs from their town, to the very last one. While visiting parts of Western Galilee, Kahane was helped yesterday by 300 supporters when confronted with a spontaneous counter-demonstration of 2,000 residents mainly from old 'Akko, who called for Jewish-Arab brotherhood. Kahane ended the tour in Nahariyya and Ma'alot.

The counter-demonstration was also attended by a few members of Kibbutz Masaryk, who expressed their anger and protest at the inflammatory remarks. Also among those demonstrating against Kahane was the deputy mayor of 'Akko, Yehoshu'a Katz, who, a few hours previously, had convened a news conference together with members of the town council, at which he rejected Rabbi Kahane's attempt to drive a wedge between the Jews and Arabs in 'Akko.

Inter alia, MK Kahane said at the rally that "after the next election he, Ari'el Sharon, and Rafal (MK Refa'el Eytan) would establish order in the country." Kahane said that when he became defense minister he would load the Arabs onto trucks and send them straight to Saudi Arabia.

Knesset Members Beaten by KAKH Supporters

TA261143 Jerusalem *Domestic Service* in Hebrew
1100 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Dr Burg gave personal orders to prevent four Knesset members [MK's] from entering the Tel Mond prison and examining the conditions of the people arrested for being members of the Jewish underground. The minister even refused to let them enter the prison office, as they had requested after standing in

the sun for several hours at the prison gate. This has been reported by our correspondent Mikha'el Huller. Our correspondent relates that he saw demonstrators from the KAKH movement hit Ya'ir Tzaban [MAPAM]. He blanched and retreated from the prison gate toward the cars belonging to the MK's. A member of the Shinuy Secretariat, who accompanied MK Virshubsky, was beaten and kicked and ran away from the spot with the demonstrators chasing him. Some 35 KAKH members were there, including the family of the soldier Moshe Tamam, who was murdered by terrorists a short time ago.

Our correspondent says it took policemen about an hour to come to the defense of the MK's after the demonstrators had begun hitting them.

Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that MK's Tzaban, Virshubsky, and Bar-on have just submitted a complaint to the Kfar Sava police about a person who, according to them, was involved in organizing the attack against them.

MK Beni Shalita [Likud] also stood at the prison gate and wanted to enter.

The MK's say they had been promised that the visit could take place today. The minister of the interior and prisons authorities say the promise was for next Sunday. The minister of the interior has issued a statement accusing MK Virshubsky of having initiated a gathering of people that could undermine the values of the administration and public order, and was aimed purely at unrestrained self-aggrandizement. The visit, the minister of interior has said, was Virshubsky's own initiative and a showcase action. The Ministry of Interior, so the minister has said, always grants requests by Knesset committees for visits to the prisons, although, according to the attorney general's legal opinion, an MK does not have the right to enter a prison, by virtue of the law of immunity. The Ministry of the Interior suggested three dates to MK Virshubsky, and this was in accordance with requests by several other MK's.

World Zionists' Head Urges Likud To Back Peres

TA260536 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Arye Dultzin, the chairman of the World Zionist Organization, yesterday announced that he will recommend to his colleagues in the Liberal Party that they pressure the Likud to join a national unity government headed by Peres. Dultzin believes that most of the Likud members support this suggestion, and according to him only some Likud members need be pressured.

Official's Advice Castigated

TA260815 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Matityahu Drobles, the head of the World Zionist Organization [WZO] Settlement Department on behalf of Herut, advised WZO chairman Arye Dultzin to manage the issues under his responsibility before recommending that Herut mem-

bers should convince the Likud to join a government headed by Shim'on Peres. Drobles reacted to Dultzin's remarks that except for a few Herut members, most of the Likud supports this suggestion. Dultzin added that it is only natural that the president handed the job of forming the government to Shim'on Peres, because the Alignment came in first in the Knesset elections.

Reactions to Republican Platform Reported

TA261458 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Aug 84 p 1

[Tavi Bar'el and 'Aqiva Eldar "exclusive" report from Washington]

[Text] U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Jeane Kirkpatrick has said that the Reagan plan was born several years ago, but noted that circumstances have changed in the meantime. Kirkpatrick hinted that a new plan should be found for resolving the Middle East crisis.

These remarks contradict what Vice President George Bush said. In a speech he made in Dallas, he emphasized that the Reagan plan is the cornerstone of U.S. policy in the Middle East. It should be noted that the phrase "Reagan plan" is not specifically used in the Republican platform, but from the reference to the "U.S. plan accepted by several Arab countries in the area" (without mentioning Israel), it is clear that the Republicans intend to adopt the Reagan plan.

The U.S. Administration has at long last recognized that the Reagan plan cannot be revived and nothing can be done in the Middle East without Israel's agreement — this was the reaction by the prime minister's office last night to the lack of reference to the Reagan plan in the Republican platform and the remarks by U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Jeane Kirkpatrick.

Confidants of the prime minister expressed the hope that the U.S. Administration will again regard the Camp David agreement as the basis of U.S. policy in the Middle East. They regard the lack of reference to the plan in the Republican platform as, *inter alia*, the fruit of the Israeli Government's consistent stand on this issue.

Senior political sources in Jerusalem also pointed to the importance of underscoring the basic U.S. commitment to Israel's security and its value as a U.S. strategic asset. At the same time, it was noted that Vice President George Bush, speaking to OPEC leaders, repeated the principles of the Reagan plan in order to say that, despite the fact that the plan was not mentioned in the platform, it is not dead. The sources said there has been no change in the Republicans' basic approach, or in that of the Democrats, since the Rogers Plan: territories in return for peace. The Republicans first adopted the Camp David agreement in their platform, an agreement that enjoys great popularity among both Jews and non-Jews. But the observers in Jerusalem are cautioning against laying too much stress of the U.S. parties' platforms and drawing far-reaching conclusions from statements made on the eve of the election.

Jerusalem observers think that Kirkpatrick's remarks about the changes that have taken place in the area since the Reagan plan

was drawn up are references to the Persian Gulf war and the Lebanon war. We should not infer from this that the U.S. Administration thinks changes have occurred in the situation on the eastern border mentioned in the Reagan plan.

Editorial Reviews Convention

TA261511 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 26 Aug 84 p 7

[Editorial: "The Republicans' Jewish Point"]

[Text] In his speech on the eve of the conclusion of the Republican convention in Dallas, President Ronald Reagan did not forget to remark that the United States will never abandon Israel, "one of its closest friends." *Inter alia*, the remarks were also aimed at guaranteeing Reagan and his party the maximum support from the Jewish community, all the more needed as a considerable number of U.S. Jews are not enthusiastic over the Republican platform's conservative-extremist tone, including the reference to permitting prayer in schools, thus changing the traditional separation between church and state. The Jewish voters are certainly pleased by the unambiguous condemnation of anti-Semitism and racism, as opposed to the embarrassment caused to the Democratic camp by Jesse Jackson's stand and the incitement by Louis Farrakhan, a Nation of Islam leader. Luckily for the Democratic candidates in Congress, Jewish voters have a decisive influence on the Senate and House races according to the personal positions and political balance of each and every one of them.

However, without denigrating President Reagan's basic friendship for Israel — a friendship that has bipartisan support in the United States — we should not ignore Vice President George Bush's reminder that the Reagan plan (which is not mentioned in the Republican platform) is still alive and kicking, and the remarks by Bush carry much greater weight than the soothing words by UN Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, who is scheduled to leave the administration soon.

The mention, too, in the platform, that the United States does not intend to recognize the PLO as long as it does not abandon terrorism or recognize Israel's right to exist, leaves the possibility of recognition open when there is a change in the position of the Palestinian organization or, at least, among the majority in it. It is certainly possible that the Reagan administration in a second term in office will once again attempt to revive the peace process. Israel has deluded itself and is not ready for this, and that is its own fault.

Request for More U.S. Aid Tied to Economic Steps

TA260532 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Israel will not ask for additional U.S. aid as long as there is no plan formulated to cure the economy. This was learned by our correspondent Me'ir Einstein. On the other hand, Israel will ask the United States for the annual \$2.6 billion in aid earlier than usual, at the beginning of the U.S. fiscal year in October. Our correspondent in Washington Razi Barqay reports that there will be no difficulties in approving an increase in aid to Israel,

and no special legislation will be called for in Congress. However, the U.S. Administration wants to receive a consolidated economic plan from Jerusalem which will include budget cuts and price checks.

Editorial Urges Caution in Trade Zone Talks

TA261329 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
26 Aug 84 p 8

[Editorial: "Going Too Fast"]

[Text] Gidon Pat is in a hurry to complete the negotiation of a free trade area with the U.S. He would like to do so before relinquishing his Cabinet post under a new government. He may be going too fast.

Knesset members feel he is riding roughshod over the legislature. The recent visit of Mr Sam Gibbons, together with members of the Trade Sub-Committee which he heads in the U.S. House of Representatives, underlines the predominance of Congress in the formulation of America's foreign-trade policy.

Should the determination of Israel's foreign-trade arrangements be left to government officials? Parliamentarian Dan Tikhon proposes that the Knesset Finance Committee set up a sub-committee to supervise the negotiations and take a stand on the issues at stake.

The issues at stake are fateful — the Manufacturers Association has awakened belatedly to the dangers that may be facing them. They have at this late stage submitted a 10-point memorandum marking out the red lines that in their view should not be crossed.

Predictably they want continued protection through an extended period of grace for sensitive branches, and do not shrink from demanding that the Americans refrain from extending the same protection to branches in the U.S. — textiles, clothing, processed food — that are sensitive there.

The Israelis feel particular concern at the pressure from U.S. negotiators to eliminate gradually the subsidization of exports, which means putting an end, in the course of time, to the supply of cheap loans (and in the case of certain types of investment, government grants).

But the extra protection for particular categories that the Manufacturers Association is requesting amounts to a demand for an additional subsidy, and to the weakest sectors of the economy at that.

They admit, and their memorandum makes no bones about it, that industry in this country divides into two approximately equal halves: the export sector which is competitive, and the sector that feeds the domestic market which is often not. The former needs no protection, it is built to hold its own in world markets and does so successfully.

Ought the latter to be granted a special dispensation? Account must be taken of the fact that a business recession is imminent, once a new Cabinet starts slashing government expenditures.

Export industries will be immune, but the rest are going to be seriously affected.

On the other hand, if the Americans grant a longer period of grace for certain local-market Israeli industries, they will expect a *quid pro quo*, protecting their own vulnerable industries and handicapping Israel's exports; so that we may be losing more than we gain.

A better solution would be, when the age of zero-tariffs begins five years from now (for trade both with the Common Market and hopefully with the U.S.), to fix a devalued exchange-rate which would favour exports and simultaneously put up the price of imports, to the benefit of the local factories.

This can be done if living standards are not allowed to surge beyond the level which the economy can support. A number of debtor countries have adopted drastic exchange-rate policies (Mexico, Brazil) at a heavy cost to the level of incomes. But their balance of payments has improved substantially, which promises easier times in the future.

Ya'aqobi Reacts to Reported U.S. Economic Pressure

TA261334 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 26 Aug 84 p 2

[Shlomo Frankel and Leon Hadar report from Washington]

[Excerpts] At the end of last week the U.S. Administration began a coordinated offensive aimed at achieving two objectives: to bring about the rapid establishment of a government in Israel, and to force Israel to implement an economic program whose main point would be great unemployment. This is how senior circles in Israel have evaluated the flood of articles in the important U.S. papers about the administration's intentions.

Senior circles in Jerusalem told HADASHOT that "the demands [derishot] in the U.S. approach to the degree of gravity of the required economic moves are immeasurably greater than what the Finance Ministry wants to do." This was said about the dimensions of the unemployment expected as a result of the implementation of the U.S. plans.

In reply to a question by HADASHOT about the U.S. Administration's offensive, Knesset Member Gad Ya'aqobi [Alignment] said: "The Americans certainly want a government to be established immediately in Israel. They are concerned about the further deterioration and inability to make decisions. And they are exerting pressure, although indirectly, because it is clear to them that direct pressure can produce the opposite result."

Ya'aqobi said: "I do not think the Americans regard unemployment as a goal. I have had meetings with them and I think they want a program that will very much decrease the government's expenditure, but I do not think it is simply a goal of mass unemployment."

Ya'aqobi disclosed to HADASHOT that at the talks held by the Alignment and Likud economic teams about the establishment of a national unity government, it was the Alignment that pressed for the introduction into the conclusions [sikumim] of the phrase

"the goal of full employment," while the Likud was satisfied with the phrase "avoiding unemployment." It was the Alignment phrase that was accepted.

Ya'aqobi Denies Intention To Cancel Indexing

TA252006 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Knesset Member Gad Ya'aqobi has denied that he told WALL STREET JOURNAL that he intends to cancel the system of linking salaries to the consumer price index. He says that he talked about a possible plan in the framework of an agreement between the government, the Histadrut, and the employers about freezing wages, prices, and taxes. Therefore, Ya'aqobi says, the report is basically unfounded and he was misquoted.

U.S. 'Friends' To Oppose Saudi Weapons Request

TA261333 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Saudi Arabia is seeking to buy new F-16 fighter planes from the United States. This follows a recent Saudi request for the sophisticated Sidewinder air-to-air missiles. Voice of Israel's Washington correspondent says that the administration will apparently delay its reply on the requests until after the November elections. Friends of Israel in the U.S. Congress are expected to act to try to bar the deal on the grounds that the Saudis have not joined the peace process and have no intentions of doing so.

Burg Orders Flag Returned to Temple Mount

TA252012 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Interior and Police Affairs Minister Dr Yosef Burg has instructed Avraham Turgeman, the Southern District's police commander, to immediately return the Israeli flag to the office of the police commander on the Temple Mount. Our correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov stresses that it was Commander Turgeman himself who ordered the removal of the flag some months ago, following complaints by Waqf representatives. Yesterday the police affairs minister himself instructed Commander Turgeman to return the flag. Our correspondent says that police officers fear a deterioration in police relations with the Waqf as a result of this decision. Waqf official Shaykh Hasan (Ta'bub) said tonight that hoisting the flag will affect Muslims' feelings, and in his opinion no flag should be hoisted at all at any holy place.

Ne'eman Welcomes Decision

TA252015 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1957 GMT 25 Aug 84

["Announcement by the Science and Development Ministry Spokesman" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 25 Aug (ITIM) — Science and Development Minister Prof Yuval Ne'eman has welcomed Interior Minister

Dr Yosef Burg's order to return the Israeli flag to the Temple Mount, saying it expresses a minimum of Israeli sovereignty over this place. The minister commented that the hoisting of the flag over the police station on a site which is holy to Judaism, of all places, had been prevented contrary to practice elsewhere in Israel.

Muslim Council Condemns Step

TA270556 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] The Supreme Muslim Council in East Jerusalem condemned the interior minister's decision to hoist the Israeli flag over the police station on Temple Mount. The Supreme Muslim Council emphasized that a national flag has never been hoisted over a site sacred to the Islamic faith, and that it cannot agree to such a development now.

Burg Downplays Incident

TA271220 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Minister Burg said he is opposed to hoisting a flag over the Temple Mount. According to Burg the affair was exaggerated and the flag in question was only a small one, placed on the desk of the police station commander there.

IDF Deputy Chief of Staff Resigning Soon

TA261516 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Aug 84 p 1

[Yosef Walter report]

[Text] Deputy Chief of Staff Major General David 'Ivri will leave his post in the near future and will resign from the IDF. Maj Gen 'Ivri will go on to serve as chairman of the Israel Aircraft Industries board of directors. A decision on a replacement for Maj Gen 'Ivri will be made within 2 weeks.

Major General Dan Shomron is Minister Arens' candidate to replace him, while the chief of staff's candidate is Major General Amir Drori. It seems that the defense minister will make a decision several days before Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi leaves for the United States.

Yesterday the IDF General Staff Headquarters forum decided to appoint Colonel Efrayim Lapid as IDF spokesman, replacing Brigadier General Ya'akov Eban who is leaving after 5 years in the job. Brigadier General Eban will be appointed to another senior post in the IDF. However, for the moment, no decision has yet been made about what his next post will be and there are several possibilities.

Colonel Lapid is serving in the Intelligence Corps and is currently serving as an instructor at the National Defense College. When he enters his new post, he will be promoted to the rank of brigadier general.

Next month another round of appointments is expected in the IDF at the senior command levels in the wake of Maj Gen David 'Ivri's resignation.

Former Iranian Prime Minister on Arms to Iran

TA261403 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 26 Aug 84 p 17

[Interview with Former Iranian Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiar by Ra'anana Rein — by telephone from Paris; date not given]

[Text] HADASHOT: Recently Iran has been accused of laying mines in the Suez Canal [place as published].

Bakhtiar: Khomeyni has built up an international terrorist network whose center is in Tehran. We have documents that indicate, for instance, that the explosion that killed hundreds of U.S. and French soldiers in Lebanon was implemented in accordance with orders from Tehran. Khomeyni's regime has adopted terrorism as a policy, and so it is not inconceivable that Iran is also connected with mining the Red Sea. I have no evidence for this, but this is the type of action that Iran, Libya, and, to a certain extent, Syria, too, are capable of carrying out.

HADASHOT: It appears that Khomeyni is ill and dying.

Bakhtiar: Khomeyni is an old man and is very sick. The regime, however, is still standing firm and so our struggle must go on.

HADASHOT: What chance is there that the clerics' regime will fall?

Bakhtiar: I am absolutely confident that this regime will collapse in the end, unless it continues to gain support from Western governments who buy oil from it or sell it arms. I think only a small minority in Iran supports Khomeyni's regime. Less than 10 percent. But the regime now has income from oil sales and it also has a large number of weapons. Khomeyni rules with the aid of money and arms. If the weapons aid from external sources stops, the regime will be weakened.

HADASHOT: The international press has carried reports of arms sales from Israel to Iran.

Bakhtiar: I know that the people of Israel support our fight against Khomeyni. But, at the same time, there are people in the Israeli Government who are showing support for Khomeyni's regime. According to documents we have, Israel has sent large quantities of weapons to Iran, directly or indirectly, and this is something very sad for many Iranians. I hope the Israeli Government will stop giving aid to Khomeyni.

HADASHOT: Do Israel and Khomeyni have a common interest?

Bakhtiar: This Israeli policy is bad for anyone fighting Khomeyni. According to statements by Israeli ministers, for instance by Minister Sharon, Israel is sending arms to Khomeyni. Perhaps not everyone in Israel understands that Khomeyni is the one making trouble throughout the Middle East and the Persian Gulf. I hope the shipments of arms to Khomeyni will stop.

'Secret Visit' by Guinean Delegation Reported

TA241406 [Editorial Report] Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1050 GMT on 24 August carries a live report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer.

After mentioning the visit to Israel last week by two Nigerian religious figures, which was publicized in the Israeli media and prompted their government to publicly announce that the visits "were not on our behalf," Schiffer goes on to say that there was recently "another important attempt by Israel to return to the black continent" that remained secret: a visit by a "large delegation" from Guinea, "which was kept out of the limelight."

Schiffer then relates the history of Israeli-Guinean relations, during the terms in office of former Prime Minister Menahem Begin and the late Guinean president.

Another example Schiffer cites in "Israel's difficult and indirect attempts to reach Africa" is its relations with Cameroon, and reports that a Tunisian-born Jewish architect who built a palace for the president of Cameroon served as the middleman to bring Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche to the capital of Cameroon recently, the result being that "Israel is about to open a liaison office in that country, thus increasing the number of representations that are already operating on that continent. Despite the concerted efforts Kimche and another Foreign Ministry official put into reestablishing contacts with African countries, Schiffer reports that "an investigation I have carried out reveals that, over the past few years, the government has not held any debate over Israeli foreign policy in Africa." This points to one policy problem here, and that is to what extent Israel will be prepared to "be identified with the policy of these or other tyrants in Africa," and Schiffer says that "the public debate has not been held for fear of over-publicity."

ALGERIA

Reportage of Visit by Syria's Hafiz al-Asad

Makes Arrival Statement

JN252013 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad arrived in Algiers at 1830 today, Damascus time, on a working visit to Algeria. President al-Asad was received at Algiers International Airport by President Chadli Bendjedid, who welcomed the president at the plane's landing steps. The Algerian president then presented to President al-Asad the senior Algerian officials who were at the head of those who received him, including Rabah Bitat, speaker of the National People's Assembly; Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Central Committee's permanent secretariat; Abdelhamid Brahimi, Algerian prime minister; Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, minister of foreign affairs; and a number of state and party officials in Algeria. Salim Shayya, Syrian ambassador in Algiers, and the embassy staff also received President al-Asad.

The president shook hands with those who received him and the Algerian Army band played the Syrian and Algerian national anthems. The president then inspected the guard of honor after which he left with President Chadli Bendjedid for the reception hall where he made a statement to the Algerian television and media. President al-Asad said: As you know, we always have something to talk about; we always have joint and common issues. Therefore, this necessitates that the Arab leaders hold meetings. We used to meet Brother President Chadli Bendjedid occasionally to exchange opinions on bilateral issues that concern our countries and general issues that concern our Arab nation in general. I am very pleased to visit fraternal Algeria and to meet with President Bendjedid. In fact, our meeting will be useful for our bilateral and general issues that I have outlined, as was the case during our previous meetings.

President al-Asad and President Bendjedid then moved in an official motorcade to the guest palace where the president will stay. The two presidents held a meeting in the guest palace. The meeting was attended by the Syrian delegation accompanying the president which includes Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Ba'th Party Regional Command member Sulayman Qaddah, and Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh as well as Syria's Ambassador in Algiers Salim Shayya. The meeting was attended on the Algerian side by Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi. During this meeting, the talks revolved around the situation in the Middle East, the latest developments in the Arab arena, and issues of mutual interest.

Begins Talks With Bendjedid

LD260730 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The first round of Algerian-Syrian talks began yesterday evening under the chairmanship of the two presidents, Chadli Bendjedid and Hafiz al-Asad. On the Algerian side the talks were attended by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs; and on the

Syrian side by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian vice president. Chadli Bendjedid, the secretary general of the party and president of the republic, gave a dinner banquet last night in honor of the Syrian president and the accompanying delegation.

Talks Resume in Algiers

JN261217 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Algiers — President Hafiz al-Asad and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid resumed their talks at the Algerian presidential palace in Algiers at 1215 today, Damascus time. The meeting was attended on the Syrian side by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Ba'th Party Regional Command member Sulayman Qaddah, and Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh, as well as Syria's ambassador in Algiers Salim Shayya. On the Algerian side the meeting was attended by Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Central Committee's permanent secretariat [words indistinct].

The talks dealt with the general situation in the Middle East and the latest developments in the Arab arena in light of the imperialist and Zionist designs that are hostile to the Arab nation and its pan-Arab causes. During the meeting, they assessed the situation in general and the developments in the Arab region. The talks also dealt with the relations of brotherhood and cooperation between the two fraternal countries and issues of mutual interest. The Algerian side expressed appreciation for Syria's pan-Arab stands and its confrontation of imperialist and Zionist designs.

Al-Asad Meets Polisario's Abdelaziz

LD261941 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] The Syrian president, Hafiz al-Asad, had talks today with the secretary general of the Polisario Front and president of Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, Mohamed Abdelaziz, during the latter's stop over today in Algeria. A statement of the Saharan Information and Culture Ministry said that an atmosphere of brotherhood and understanding prevailed in this meeting and it dealt with the international situation and questions of mutual interest. The meeting was attended on the Syrian side by the Syrian vice president, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; and on the Saharan side by Mohammed Salem Ould Salek, member of the Polisario Front Political Bureau and official responsible for foreign relations.

Al-Asad Comments on Visit

LD262005 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] President of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafiz al-Asad this afternoon left Algiers after a working and friendly visit. He was seen off at Houari Boumediene International Airport by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party who was accompanied by members of the Political Bureau.

After a short rest at the VIP lounge at the airport, President Hafiz al-Asad together with President Chadli Bendjedid listened to the two national anthems before he greeted members of the Political Bureau. Before boarding the plane, President Hafiz al-Asad at the VIP lounge at the airport made a statement to newsmen in which he talked about the results of his visit to Algeria. The following is part of his statement:

I have discussed with Brother President Chadli Benjedid bilateral and general Arab issues. The issues we discussed were general and our viewpoint or viewpoints during the discussions which lasted hours were identical and we agreed on a number of matters which tend to serve the two countries and improve the conditions of action in the Arab arena.

The Syrian president in his statement said: I very much thank my Brother President Chadli Bendjedid for the care he gave to this visit and I confirm my happiness at the fraternal and cordial spirit which dominated our discussions and my happiness at the results we have achieved.

Al-Asad Departs; PLO Discussed

NC261930 Paris AFP in English 1921 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Algiers, Aug 26 (AFP) — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad left here today at the end of a 24-hour working visit during which he held a series of talks with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The split between Damascus and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat was the main subject of talks between the two men, observers said. Talks also focused on the signing earlier this month of a treaty of union between Libya and Morocco, viewed with considerable reserve by Algeria.

President al-Asad arrived here yesterday following a three-day visit to Libya where he met in Benghazi with Libyan leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi. President al-Asad has not been to Algiers since May 1983, a few weeks before Mr 'Arafat's expulsion from Damascus. His visit this time follows extended efforts by both Algeria and South Yemen to end differences within the PLO and between Mr 'Arafat and Damascus.

Earlier this month a statement issued after a meeting here between Mr 'Arafat's organisation Fatah, the main PLO group, and the PLO's Democratic Alliance called for a consolidation of relations with Syria. However the pro-Syrian nationalist alliance of PLO organisations remains opposed to the holding of a Palestine National Council (parliament) meeting here on September 15.

LIBYA

Further on Visit of Syria's Al-Asad

Al-Asad, Al-Qadhafi Meet

JN241214 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Benghazi — At 1230 today President Hafiz al-Asad and Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, leader of the 1 September

Revolution, resumed the talks which began yesterday. Attending the meeting on the Syrian side were Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; Ba'th Party Regional Command member Sulayman Qaddah; Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh; and Munir Barikhan, head of the Syrian Relations Bureau in Tripoli. Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud attended the meeting on the Libyan side. During this meeting, the conferees followed up the discussion of the topics raised at the previous meeting.

It is worth noting that Al-Asad and Al-Qadhafi held a meeting at 2300 Damascus time yesterday which ended at 0200 today. This meeting was attended on the Syrian side by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; Ba'th Party Regional Command member Sulayman Qaddah; Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh; and Munir Barikhan, head of the Syrian Relations Bureau in Tripoli. Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud attended the meeting on the Libyan side.

During this meeting, the situation in the region was discussed in light of the recent developments. The two sides exchanged views and opinions on these developments. They stressed the need for developing relations, cooperation, and confidence between the two brotherly countries for the benefit of both countries and in the interest of pan-Arab struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

Al-Asad's Tripoli Activities Reported

JN250656 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Benghazi — President Hafiz al-Asad and Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, resumed their talks at 1230 yesterday. The meeting was attended on the Syrian side by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; Sulayman Qaddah, Ba'th Party Regional Command member; Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh; and Munir Barikhan, head of the Syrian Relations Bureau in Tripoli.

On the Libyan side, the meeting was attended by Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud. During this meeting, the conferees pursued the topics of discussion raised at the previous meeting. The meeting ended at 1400 yesterday. President Hafiz al-Asad and the members of the Syrian Arab delegation had lunch with Col al-Qadhafi.

President al-Asad and Col al-Qadhafi resumed talks at 1800 yesterday, Damascus time. The talks were attended by the members of the Syrian Arab delegation. At the end of this session of talks, President al-Asad and Col al-Qadhafi left for Al-Bayda' where President al-Asad was accorded a popular reception during which the Libyan citizens chanted slogans in praise of President al-Asad, the hero of Arab steadfastness, and of Syria, the upholder of the banner of pan-Arab struggle. The streets were filled with placards greeting President al-Asad and praising Syria's steadfastness.

Al-Asad, Al-Qadhdhafi Resume Talks

*JN251345 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT
25 Aug 84*

[Text] Banghazi — President Hafiz al-Asad and Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, resumed their talks in the city of Al-Bayda' at 1300 today, Damascus time. These talks were attended by the Syrian delegation accompanying the president which comprises Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Ba'th Party Regional Command member Sulayman Qaddah, Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh, and Munir Barikhan, head of the Syrian Relations Bureau in Tripoli.

The Syrian-Libyan talks, which revolved around the situation in the region in light of the latest developments, the developments in the Arab region, the requirements of the pan-Arab struggle, the confrontation of the U.S. imperialist and Zionist plan, and the trends of defeatism and capitulation in the Arab region, were completed during the meeting.

Syrian President Departs

*LD251624 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT
25 Aug 84*

[Excerpt] A meeting was held this morning between the brother leader of the revolution and President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic. President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, left the Jamahiriyyah this afternoon at the end of a 3-day visit. The brother leader of the revolution was at the forefront of those who saw President al-Asad off at the airport.

Syria's Al-Asad Returns After Algiers Visit

*JN270621 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT
27 Aug 84*

[Excerpts] Banghazi — President Hafiz al-Asad arrived in Banghazi from Algiers yesterday evening. He was received at the airport by Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya, and senior officials of the People's Committees in Banghazi. The president and Col al-Qadhdhafi held a working meeting that was attended by the delegation accompanying the president. Talks dealt with the situation in the region and the current situation in the Arab arena.

President Hafiz al-Asad and his delegation left Algiers at 1930 yesterday, Damascus time, at the end of the talks he held with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid during his cordial working visit to Algeria. The president was seen off at Boumediene Airport in Algiers by President Chadli Benjedid, senior state and party officials, and both the Syrian ambassador in Algiers and the embassy staff.

Talks between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Chadli Benjedid ended yesterday during a meeting from 1215 to 1630.

MAURITANIA**President Receives SDAR Prime Minister**

*LD262353 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT
26 Aug 84*

[Excerpt] Moments ago Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and president of the country, received Mahfoud Ali Beiba, Saharan prime minister, who arrived in the capital on a working visit to our country this evening. The meeting was attended by Colonel Yall Abdoulaye, interior minister; and Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, foreign minister.

SUDAN**Numayri Returns From Romania, Makes Statement**

JN251128 Khartoum SUNA in English 1005 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Khartoum Aug 25 (SUNA) — President Numayri and the accompanying delegation returned here yesterday ending a three-day visit to Romania on the invitation of President Ceausescu to participate in Romania's independence day celebrations. While on his way here, President Numayri stopped over at Cairo airport and held a one-hour meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

In a press conference on board the plane taking him home, President Numayri spoke of the meetings he held while in Romania. Numayri said he held a short meeting with President Ceausescu in which they planned the meetings held by the Sudanese officials and their Romanian counterparts during the visit. He said they agreed to meet again to discuss the outcome of those meetings besides other topics of mutual concern. Numayri added they also agreed on the necessity of promoting economic, social, political and cultural ties between Sudan and Romania.

Numayri said his meeting with President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan had centered on Sudan's experience on the application of Islamic shari'a. He said President Ziaul expressed his admiration of Sudan's adoption of shari'a. Numayri said they also exchanged views on means of revitalizing the Islamic Conference Organization and Nonalignment Movement. He said he accepted an invitation extended by the Pakistani president to visit Pakistan.

On his meeting with the envoy of King Hassan of Morocco in Bucharest, President Numayri said the Moroccan envoy had briefed him on the Moroccan-Libyan unification recently announced by the governments of the two countries. The president said the envoy had told him that unity would prevent al-Qadhdhafi from repeating the kinds of mistakes he used to make in the past and would consequently protect Arab and African countries from his hitherto harmful deeds and behaviour. President Numayri said he told the Moroccan envoy although Sudan was always advocating unity, it was not prepared to stand with all forms of unity. He said he told the envoy those forms of unity which are aimed at humiliating and forcibly annexing peoples will never be accepted by us.

On the envoy's explanation that the Libyan-Moroccan unity was not an Arab-Arab union but an African-Arab union which could be joined by any African or Arab country, the president said he told him that he suspects Al-Qadhdhafi would force Chad into joining that unity, and in that case Sudan would oppose that unity and declare its animosity towards the two countries fostering it. Numayri said he also warned against [the] using of that unity against Algeria, Mauritania and Tunisia. If African and Arab countries preferred to step into that unity at their free will then we accept and encourage it, said Numayri.

The president said he met with the East German president in an unscheduled meeting in Bucharest and discussed promotion of Sudanese-East German relations.

On his meeting with Chairman Yasir 'Arafat there, Numayri said 'Arafat had assured him that the forthcoming meeting of the Palestinian National Council would be held and would endorse his policies and that the dissidents had withered away and would not return back.

On the call for the convening of a conference for the countries adjoining the Red Sea, Numayri said Sudan had been calling for such a conference for years but all efforts to that end were unsuccessful. All parties have now realized the necessity of laying down plans for the security of the Red Sea and we have no objections to that, said Numayri. He said the mining of the Red Sea was a sort of international terrorism attempting to divert the world's attention from its real problems.

On the topics he discussed with President Mubarak, Numayri said Mubarak explained the situation in the Red Sea. He said Mubarak told him no mines had yet been found and he believed that there were no more of them in the Red Sea because they were timed blastic mines. [as received] He said Mubarak told him the foreign presence in the Red Sea which assists in the mine-sweeping operations will end by the end of its mission.

On the forthcoming celebrations scheduled to mark the first anniversary of the application of shari'a in the Sudan, Numayri said achievements in that respect were satisfactory, but he added his personal aspirations and those of the Muslims in the Sudan have not yet wholly been satisfied. Meanwhile, in a press statement following his meeting with President Numayri at Cairo airport, President Mubarak of Egypt said they discussed the Red Sea explosions, the Palestinian question and bilateral and international issues.

Emergency Law Extended Until 30 November

JN261137 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Aug (SUNA) — The People's Assembly held a meeting yesterday evening under its Speaker 'Izz ad-Din as-Sayyid. It approved the legislative and legal affairs committee's report concerning the draft law which empowers the president to extend the date of the state of emergency until 30 November 1984.

The report says that in view of the fact that the state of emergency is a temporary, exceptional situation, Article Two of the

Emergency Law will be amended so that the law will be valid until 30 November 1984. This will enable the president to exercise his powers in accordance with Article 158 of the Constitution.

It is to be noted that the People's Assembly will recess until November and that the present emergency mandate ends on 30 August.

TUNISIA

Essebsi on Red Sea, Libyan-Moroccan Accord

NC241254 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Tunis, 24 Aug (MENA) — Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs Beji Caid Essebsi said that the mining of the Red Sea is a criminal act against international peace and security. He said this action will lead to increased tension in this sensitive area which should remain safe and stable in everyone's interest. In an exclusive statement to a MENA correspondent in Tunis, Essebsi said it has not thus far been ascertained who is the real perpetrator of this criminal action that is contrary to international treaties and laws. Tunisia believes it is an action that does not serve peace, and that it is unjustified because it will draw the attention of major powers to the area — attention we can do without. He pointed out that the question of safe navigation, particularly in this sensitive area through which the energy supplies for industrial countries pass, will be justification for the intensified presence of these countries in the area.

On Egypt's call for a unified Arab action to protect the safety of the Red Sea, Essebsi affirmed that Arab passages do not concern the Arabs alone, but concern the entire world. He said the United Nations is the most ideal framework for guaranteeing that such incidents do not recur, because the security of the Red Sea concerns all world states and the international community. Egypt, by making this call, has exercised its right to seek the removal of these dangers.

On efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war, the Tunisian foreign minister affirmed that halting this war is an urgent matter in confronting the challenges and domination attempts in this area. He said: We are working to end this war because its continuation will destroy the economic and human resources of two Islamic countries, will be hazardous to the safety and stability of the Arab Gulf states, will threaten world peace and security, and will invite interference by major powers.

Essebsi refused to disclose what agreements were reached during the contacts he had with the chairman of the Iranian Parliamentary Foreign Relations Committee who recently visited Tunisia, as well as during his current contacts with Iranian officials. He also refused to disclose whether he will submit the results of these contacts to the Arab seven-member ministerial committee scheduled to meet in Baghdad next Sunday [26 August]. He said Tunisia is making a humble contribution in this regard and does not want to monopolize everything for itself. He said this is based on its real desire for reaching the result that is in the interest of everyone. He said Tunisia is optimistic about the future and does not want any gratitude or fame for its efforts. [passage indistinct]

In his statement, Essebsi dealt with the establishment of a federation between Libya and Morocco. He affirmed that Tunisia [word indistinct] with the building of the great Arab Maghreb and that it has been working toward this goal since the beginning of this century. He said Tunisia's ambition to liberate itself was accompanied by its struggle for the sake of building this great Arab Maghreb. He explained that as long as the building of the Maghreb requires the participation of the five states in the area — namely Tunisia, Morocco, Libya, Algeria, and Mauritania — an appropriate atmosphere must be provided through economic, commercial, and cultural integration because it is a huge and fateful project.

Essebsi said: We began the ratification of the fraternity and accord [ikha' wa wifaq] agreement with Algeria in March 1983 after we settled our border problem. Mauritania joined this agreement at the end of 1983. If the agreement is not the great Maghreb, it is a preliminary stage containing the confidence of the sides that signed it.

The Tunisian foreign minister explained that the agreement of fraternity and accord has remained open for both Morocco and Libya and that Libya has in fact asked to join the agreement. This matter is a subject of dialogue with Libya on the part of Tunisia, Algeria, and Mauritania. He noted that although Morocco did not express a desire to join the agreement, it nevertheless blessed this effort and expressed its commitment to the principle of a Greater Arab Maghreb.

He said that the agreement continued to link the three states, in addition to a pending request from Libya. Then an announcement was made of another agreement between Morocco and Libya. The Tunisian foreign minister stressed that Tunisia's adherence to the treaty of fraternity and accord with Algeria and Mauritania does not mean it is against the union agreement between Morocco and Libya, but rather blesses it. Tunisia is ready for any dialogue in this connection provided it is held on a clear basis, namely dialogue over building a Greater Arab Maghreb. He noted that relations of cooperation between Tunisia and Libya are continuing.

Concerning the Saharan problem, the Tunisian foreign minister stressed that Tunisia's stand is clear in this regard. Tunisia believes in the right to self-determination and adheres to the African consensus within the OAU reached at the Nairobi and Addis Ababa summits. He noted that at the Nairobi summit King Hassan II of Morocco agreed to hold a referendum to settle this issue.

Concerning Egyptian-Tunisian relations, the Tunisian foreign minister affirmed that his country has no problem with Egypt or with the Egyptian people, who are bound with the Tunisian people by good relations and great glory. He said we have not forgotten that Egypt hosted Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba when he was fighting for the liberation of Tunisia from colonialism. He stayed in Egypt 4 years during which he was treated with great respect.

The Tunisian foreign minister expressed the hope that Egypt will return to the Arab fold, indicating that its exclusion has had negative results. He said we consider Egypt the greatest and most

important Arab country. We have great hope that the Arabs will marshal their ranks so as to serve the Arab causes.

Protocol of Joint Committee Session With Libya Signed
LD241458 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT
 24 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The committee for following up Tunisian-Libyan cooperation, a subcommittee of the Higher Joint Tunisian-Libyan Committee, this morning ended its work which started on 22 August. The Tunisian side was led by Beji Caid Essebsi, foreign affairs minister, and included in particular Planning Minister Ismail Khalil, and Ahmed Ben Arfah, secretary of state for international cooperation. The Libyan side was led by 'Ali at-Turayki, secretary of the General People's Committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau, and included Fawzi ash-Shakshuki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning.

During the final session, which was held at the Foreign Ministry, Beji Caid Essebsi and 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki signed a protocol of the followup committee's session. The foreign affairs minister expressed satisfaction at the fraternal atmosphere and the constructive and positive spirit which had dominated the talks. He highlighted the positive results achieved. For instance, both sides have agreed to implement what was agreed in Tripoli during the meeting of the higher joint Tunisian-Libyan committee. He said that the two delegations agreed that the Constituent Society of the Tunisian-Libyan Bank should meet on 31 August, that is a day before 1 September, the agreed date. They also agreed to take measures to implement the two loan agreements signed by the two countries. The first concerns the linking of power grids in Tunisia and Libya. The minister also highlighted the two sides' sincere desire to continue to consolidate cooperation between the two countries in the interests of the two peoples.

'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki in his turn expressed gratitude and appreciation for the effort made by the Tunisian side for the success of the work of the committee and the extreme hospitality accorded to him and the accompanying delegation. He also highlighted the fraternal atmosphere which had dominated the work of the committee, pointing out that this fraternal spirit and the eagerness to serve the common interest of the two countries allows us to have trust in the future.

Concerning economic cooperation, both sides reviewed the protocols of the two ministerial committees specializing in economic affairs, transport, communications, basic equipment, and electricity, and expressed satisfaction with the measures taken by both sides for the implementation of the recommendations and resolutions of these two committees in accordance with the contents of the protocol of the first meeting of the Higher Joint Tunisian-Libyan Committee in Tripoli on 10 July 1983.

Bourguiba Receives High Commissioner to Libya
LD261833 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT
 26 Aug 84

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba received this morning Mr Mohamed Jenifane, the Tunisian high commissioner to Tripoli

with the attendance of Mr Mohamed Mzali. Mr Mohamed Jenifane presented to the president a report on the Tunisian-Libyan relations and on the activities of the Tunisian High Commission in the Jamahiriya. He also conveyed to the president the greetings and warm feelings of the Tunisians in Libya and their wishes of good health and long life.

KUNA: Afghan Resistance Seeking Bureau in Tunis
LD251348 Kuwait KUNA in English 1241 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Tunis, Aug 25 (KUNA) — The Afghan resistance movement is making contacts with Tunisian officials and the Arab League to open a bureau in Tunis, a Tunisian informed source said here Saturday. The source told KUNA that the Tunisian Government and the Arab League are still studying the issue and making consultations with some Arab and foreign countries on the consequences of opening such a bureau in Tunis. The source, who wished to remain unidentified, said if the bureau was granted permission to open here, it will only carry out information activities and will not have diplomatic immunity.

KUNA: Ministers of Housing, Public Works Replaced
LD251252 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Tunis, 25 Aug (KUNA) -- In a statement following his meeting today with President Habib Bourguiba at the president's summer resort in Monastir Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali announced that the president has decided to appoint Mohamed Sayah as minister of public works and housing. But Prime Minister Mzali said nothing about the fate of the current ministers of housing and public works, Moncef Amor and Sabok Ben Jomaa respectively.

Hitherto, Sayah has been Tunisian ambassador to Rome. He was also minister of public works before he was relieved of this post. Sayah will leave for Rome within the next few days to take leave from officials there before returning to assume his new post. Sayah is one of the leaders of the ruling Socialist Destourian Party of Tunisia.

TANZANIA

Nyerere CCM Conference Closing Address

EA241702 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili
1415 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Live relay of speech by President Julius Nyerere at an extraordinary conference of the Chama Cha Mapinduzi, CCM, party in Dar es Salaam on 23 August]

[Excerpts] We now come to the end of our function and the final task allocated to me is to close this conference. Now, Ndugu Delegates, as we said this morning, this conference was going to be a special conference for these tasks that we have accomplished, and, as you appreciate, they were crucial tasks which we had to undertake. We thank you for the trouble you went through prior to coming here; we have now finalized this exercise.

You will note that because this was a special conference during which we wanted to accomplish the task for which it was convened in accordance with the constitution, I did not say anything in the morning for fear that if I said anything I would be expressing the views of the conference on the specific task before it — engaging ourselves in pointless discussions. Therefore, I did not speak in the morning so that we could undertake the exercise for which we came here — finalize it and return home. We have now accomplished that task, we have accomplished it very well and once again commend our brothers who are elected and, as I said earlier, I also commend our brothers who lost.

We were also required to elect the vice chairman. For this task, the NEC [National Executive Committee], true to our tradition, proposed one person. Let us not get carried to a situation where we say: Mwinyi defeated this or that person. Mwinyi is our elder — we all agreed that he deserves to lead us. Period. He did not defeat anyone. [applause] We agreed as adults that we have a chance for a good leader. We assessed the leaders we have — all of them cannot be [presumably, vice chairman]. We said: Who among them deserves to be our leader. We did not want to put him up against another person.

I am speaking about the president of the United Republic. The election for the presidency or the chairman is a long way from now [laughter], it is due in 1987, and I have not said that anyone should deprive me of my chairmanship. [laughter] I have not asked anyone to snatch the chairmanship from me. I was elected for 5 years; I was elected in 1982 and the next elections are not due until 1987. Colleagues, I intend to continue until 1987. [laughter] Let us understand one another that way in case someone tries to creep into it. [loud laughter and applause]

This issue of 1987, why do we discuss it today? But it is being said by one we respect. [loud applause] I am glad that this has been stated by someone we highly esteem, and that person is now saying: Let's continue. This is a remark by one saying the truth. [applause and sound of drumming] Do not misunderstand me. I say, brother vice chairman has reminded me, and it is not bad to remind me, and I say it is a reminder by one whom we highly esteem, and he did not say this lightly. He has in fact said it appropriately.

We are considering the leadership in our country, and truly speaking, when we consider it, let us think of all the implications as well as the depth of the matter and let us realize what we resolve to do.

I would be lying to you if I said that between that time when I said it and now I have begun to see reasons to change my decision — I have not — because we are helping each other in building our country's leadership. Our main task is to strive, each time we have an opportunity, to improve our country's leadership.

And what is most gratifying is looking forward instead of looking back too often, because, honestly, right now our major task is to look forward instead of looking back. What I am saying is that we must always look forward because that is crucial.

But I say I am extremely glad that when we arrived here, like the vice chairman said, we had lost two of our leaders this year — two of our very prominent leaders this year in unavoidable circumstances. We did not desire it to be so. It was not our desire, but that is the reality: that we lost two leaders — and we are continuing. When this or that happens people ask: What happens next? What should happen? We continue.

Our country is big and mature and we are continuing, and I feel that is the most important thing. I say: I am glad we have come this far. We have been shaken but we have overcome the situation. God willing, we shall overcome the remaining storms.

And finally, Ndugu wananchi, we are going home. This is August, the month when we prepare to cultivate, to deploy human resources. Now I ask you, wananchi, wherever we are going back to, we must really make great effort again to see [what we can achieve]. Let us try our luck for next year.

We have held a 3-day NEC seminar where we discussed our economic problems. In fact, no matter how long you talk, you come back to the same spot. You can save yourself in only one way. If we are to save ourselves through self-reliance, there is only one way, by farming. That is because it is the way in which all Tanzanians can use their energies. There are other small sectors — there are a very few who engage in them — but it is by farming that Tanzanians must endeavor to survive — and therefore, Wananchi, we appeal to you again to make efforts in the forthcoming period.

You will say we are not in control of rainfall: Sometimes we get good rains and at others we do not. What I say is that except for certain areas, normally there is enough rainfall countrywide to give us enough food as well as a surplus.

Many regions have had enough rain this year to give us twice or even three times the amount of food we shall need this year provided we do what is required. I said in Kilimanjaro they are cultivating 60,000 hectares of corn. They say in a good year they get one ton of corn per hectare — one hectare is nearly two and a half acres. You get 10 bags, that is about four bags and a little more per acre, but in parts of Tanzania we get 20, 30 bags an

acre; per acre. There are places in southern Tanzania which produce 70 bags a hectare. It is plain that if our brothers in Kilimanjaro did what was required we would not get 60 hectares [as heard]. We would get twice or even three times as much.

What do they need? They need two things because they cultivate well; I know they cultivate very well. But there are two things which they do not do properly. They do not plant enough seeds. The fields are not planted with sufficient density. Secondly, they do not use fertilizers. I know there are not enough fertilizers, but let us keep trying. Let us leave the question of obtaining fertilizers to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Now, wananchi, I say let us really plant properly. These things cannot be taken lightly. We have our Korean brothers. Korea, Ndugu wananchi, is about an eighth of the size of Tanzania. Eight North Koreans are the same size as Tanzania. Some of us have been to Korea. It is a small country [words indistinct] but at time we beg food from Korea; we are now a mature people. We are begging from friends who are not much better off.

Recently we had a visit from their vice president. They are helping us with the Dakawa irrigation scheme, where there are 2,000 hectares on which we are trying to grow rice. I think we have planted maybe about 800 [hectares]; we have not planted the rest yet. What are we waiting for? We are waiting for tractors from America. Now, those are highly civilized people say to us: Why are you waiting for tractors? You have prepared the ground completely and all the 2,000 hectares are ready. You have the machinery you used to plant the 800 hectares, so why are you wasting the remaining 1,200? Can you not find another way of planting apart from waiting for tractors from America? In the meantime we are here. We are here. It is not as if we were not here. We are here. We are here wasting a lot of time loitering and waiting for tractors to come from America. You have prepared 1,200 hectares. Then starting planting with whatever means you have at your disposal right now. Let the tractors come when they will. Can you really as mature people just stay doing nothing while we go and beg for food while there are 1,200 hectares here ready to be planted?

PLO's 'Arafat Makes 2-Day Official Visit

Arrives, Met by Nyerere

*LD251709 Dar es Salaam External Service in English
1600 GMT 25 Aug 84*

[Text] The chairman of the PLO, Ndugu Yasir 'Arafat, arrived in Dar es Salaam today for a 2-day official visit to Tanzania. The PLO leader was met at Dar es Salaam international airport by his host, President Nyerere; the prime minister, Ndugu Salim Ahmed Salim; and other party and government officials.

The PLO chief received a 21-gun salute on his arrival while inspecting a guard of honor mounted by members of the Tanzania People's Defense Forces.

During his visit Ndugu 'Arafat will hold talks with President Nyerere, who is hosting a state dinner tonight for his guest.

Comments on RSA, Israel

*EA261852 Dar es Salaam External Service in English
1415 GMT 26 Aug 84*

[Speech by Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee Chairman, at Diamond Jubilee Hall in Dar es Salaam — live]

[Excerpts] As you are here a vanguard for all the honorable persons and people in the world facing the imperialists and this regime, the racism and fascism of Pretoria, we are there facing the Israeli regime — the new Nazism, racism. The two regimes, in Pretoria and in Tel Aviv, are the same fronts facing you and facing us.

This awful, this very (?heinous) alliance between Pretoria and Tel Aviv, which has been completely supported by the American imperialists, with unlimited support at all levels — military support, financial support, political support, diplomatic support, through the mass media and all kinds of support — these two regimes, this alliance between Tel Aviv and Pretoria, will be defeated by our nation and by the people of Africa. [applause]

And it is not by chance this pressure, this imperialistic pressure against you here, brothers, in Tanzania from imperialism, from neo-colonialism: It is because you are supporting the just cause of Namibia, of South Africa, and of Palestine. And we are sure, first of all, it is your destiny that you are in this battle, in this front, carrying on your shoulders this historical responsibility to face neo-Nazism, to face imperialism, to face Pretoria and Zionism.

It is your destiny and I am sure you will be faithful for this destiny. [applause] It is not by chance at all that here in Dar es Salaam it is the center of all the liberation organizations in Africa. It is not by chance because you are defending them — you are the strong black (?power) for all the revolutionaries and all the freedom fighters. [applause]

Our brothers, during the last 2 years we faced a very, very fierce attack from Israel supported completely by the American Administration. But we have to carry on. What is the result of the war? Maybe Sharon won a battle, but they lost the war. [applause] And I will give you the whole conclusion of our slogan. You see, after our departure from Beirut, we and our allies, the Lebanese, have this very successful war of attrition in the south of Lebanon against the Israeli forces. Because still there are 500,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. And now the Israeli military junta, for the first time, they are in the corner.

You remember also that when the invasion started, the Israeli military junta had declared that: Our aim is to destroy the infrastructure of the PLO. But our second miracle was (?this point): that we succeeded to reorganize again in a very short period of time all our infrastructure again [applause], our military infrastructure, our educational infrastructure, our health infrastructure, our social infrastructure, our research centers, our technical centers, our Palestinian studies and all our infrastructures. And this was the real challenge. And we are here to mention from our deepest hearts our thanks for our brother here, our Mwalimu [Nyerere] and the people of Tanzania for their help, their support for us to rebuild again our infrastructure.

[applause] And as H.E. the Mwalimu mentioned yesterday, maybe you can face a huge military power, but you cannot defeat the spirit of the nation. [applause]

We are facing, both of us, economically huge imperialistic powers, but they cannot defeat our spirit. [applause] The spirit of the nation is the glorious platform coming from there — from God. No one can defeat us. [applause] We are in the same trench — struggling against the same enemy. We are more stronger than our enemy. We will defeat them sooner or later. And we will continue in our struggle. This is the promise from volunteer to volunteer.

Also we are facing in Lebanon, for the first time in the Arab world, another conspiracy. After the departure of our military forces from Beirut and from Tripoli, there is a new conspiracy against the Lebanese people. This is an American-Israel conspiracy and I am very sorry to say that some Arab countries have been involved in this battle: The partition of Lebanon in sectarian (?elements). We are against this. We the Palestinians are against this conspiracy and will face it with the Lebanese — with all the honorables and freedom fighters in our area.

This is another front we are facing. Not only that — there is another front we are very interested in and it is our duty to be involved (?with it now): The struggle in South Africa, beside our friends and brothers in Namibia and in South Africa against the regime of Pretoria. [applause] And we will carry on in this line. We know that the Frontline States are facing a very difficult situation, not only from the Pretoria regime. No, it is from American imperialism.

But I am declaring here in front of your that we will defeat this alliance between Pretoria and Tel Aviv. [applause] Tel Aviv and America: This is another front which we consider as one of our main duties in our long march.

We are in the same trench with all the freedom fighters in Central Latin America and we will carry on in this line. For this we know it is not a local struggle — it is an international struggle for all freedom fighters all over the world, [applause] and according to this we know that it is not an easy battle. But we have decided that we carry on in our revolution until victory.

Long live the people of Tanzania; long live, long live the Palestinian-Tanzanian relations; long live, long live the Arab-African relations; long live: defeat for imperialism, colonialism, apartheid, racism and Zionism; defeat; and together, together until victory! Victory! Victory! Victory! Victory! Victory! Victory! Venceremos! Venceremos! Venceremos! [prolonged applause]

Meets With Mwinyi

*EA261932 Zanzibar Domestic Service in Swahili 1600 GMT
26 Aug 84*

[Text] Zanzibar: Ndugu Yasir 'Arafat, PLO chairman, said that the departure of the Palestinians from Lebanon will not affect the organization's struggle against Israel. He said the organization's centers of struggle against Israel are in Israel itself and not in Lebanon.

Ndugu 'Arafat was talking to newsmen at Bwawani Hotel soon after his arrival in Zanzibar for a brief visit. He said that the departure of the Palestinians will not reduce the organization's efforts to liberate the land which Israel has usurped. He said Israel continued its occupation of Palestinian territory because of the military and economic support given it by the United States.

The PLO leader also held official talks with Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi. Talks between the two leaders centered on the liberation activities of the PLO and the Namibian and South African liberation organizations.

Referring to his talks in Dar es Salaam with President Nyerere, he said those talks dealt with matters relating to his organization which he said supported the activities of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa in their struggle against apartheid.

Ndugu 'Arafat left late this afternoon for Dar es Salaam.

CAMEROON

Cameroon, Panama To Establish Diplomatic Ties

AB241541 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] The Governments of the Republic of Cameroon and Panama have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level in fulfillment of their desire to strengthen the friendly ties existing between the peoples of Panama and Cameroon and to consolidate and strengthen the relations of cooperation between the two countries in the economic, political, and cultural fields.

CONGO

Brazilian Foreign Minister Makes Official Visit**Reviews Cooperation**

AB241405 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Elisio Saraiva Guerreiro, who arrived in our capital yesterday, was received late this morning by Prime Minister Ange Edouard Poungui. Earlier, the Brazilian minister had been received by Comrade Henri Ndjombo, the minister of forestry, and by Comrade (Danji Loukabango), the political commissioner of the city of Brazzaville. Talking to our correspondent Martin Paraiso, the Brazilian statesman said that these various meetings were very useful because they provided an opportunity to exchange views on bilateral cooperation. He also indicated that the two countries were reaping the fruit of what was planted on the occasion of President Sassou-Nguesso's visit to Brazil in July 1982. Here is the Brazilian minister's statement on Paraiso's microphone:

[Begin Guerreiro recording] These meetings were very useful. In the field of forestry, contacts are to be established between Brazilian enterprises and your Ministry of Forestry. Plans for the exploitation of forest resources here are under consideration. Feasibility studies for the establishment of a paper industry are also under consideration. In fact, I once received the Congolese minister of forestry so we know each other already. I have also conferred with the mayor [title as heard] of Brazzaville on possible areas of cooperation, on the exchange of experience between this municipality and Brazilian municipalities.

I have just been received by the prime minister and we examined the general state of our very diversified cooperation. I think that since the president's visit in 1982, our relations of cooperation have developed significantly. I think that the visit is already yielding fruit and (?my visit) has provided another opportunity for widening the field of our cooperation. [end recording]

That was the Brazilian minister's statement after his audience with the prime minister. The report of the deliberations of the Brazil-Congo Joint Commission which began yesterday will be signed this afternoon. The signing of the document will be preceded by the reading of a joint communique.

Signs Trade Agreement

AB251352 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro ended his official visit to Brazzaville last night. The Brazilian minister and his delegation left Brazzaville very early this morning. Before their departure, a trade agreement signed between the governments of Congo and Brazil was published in the capital yesterday. Under the agreement, the two governments will promote commercial exchanges between their two countries to the highest possible level. They also agreed to grant each other the most favored nation clause in regard to customs duties and all other fares and taxes imposed on exported and imported goods.

GABON

President Bongo To Visit Japan 18-21 Sep

AB210915 Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] Within the framework of the strengthening of relations between Japan and Gabon, President Bongo, head of state and founding secretary general of the Gabonese Democratic Party, and his wife, Josephine Bongo, will be on an official visit to Tokyo from 18 to 21 September 1984, at the invitation of the Japanese Government. During the visit, President El-Hadj Omar Bongo will hold talks with Emperor Hirohito and Prime Minister Nakasone. He will also meet with Japanese businessmen.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Orders Halt to Expulsion of Zambian Residents

AB251034 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1024 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 25 Aug (AZAP) — President Mobutu has just decided that no Zambian national will be ordered out of Zaire by 31 August. The 50,000 Zambian nationals who have chosen Zaire as their second fatherland can live in peace here as long as they wish, added President Mobutu, who ruled out any retaliatory measures.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Visits 21-23 Aug**Schedule Outlined**

AB211550 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1128 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, 20 Aug (AZAP) — Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, minister of foreign affairs of the Federative Republic of Brazil, is expected in Kinshasa on Tuesday for a 3-day working visit to Zaire within the framework of cooperation between Zaire and Brazil.

During his visit, Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro will be received by Citizen Kengo wa Dondo, the first state commissioner. According to the program established by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, he will pay working visits

to Citizens Umba Di Lutete, Mulumba Lukoji, and Umba Kyamitala, state commissioners for foreign affairs and international cooperation, planning, and mines and energy, respectively. He will discuss with them the participation of Brazilian enterprises in the exploitation of gold, silver, and oil deposits in Zaire.

Also, the issue of the participation of a Brazilian company, Seteplan, in the construction of a smeltery will be discussed during a meeting he will hold with the members of the Executive Council. The Bank of Brazil has already approved \$9 million for the construction of the smeltery.

Meets With Kengo

AB232020 Kinshasa AZAP in French 2200 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 22 Aug (AZAP) — The first state commissioner, Kengo wa Dondo, at the council building on Wednesday received Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, Brazil's minister of state for foreign affairs, who arrived in Kinshasa on Tuesday evening for a 36-hour official visit. Their talks centered on the development of Zaire-Brazil cooperation in the economic, commercial, technical, and cultural fields.

The Brazilian minister of state, who was accompanied to the audience by Umba di Lutete, state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation, told the press at the end of the audience that talks are underway toward a possible cooperation in petroleum refining and also that other projects are being studied in the agricultural and mining sectors.

Mr Guerreiro stated that Brazil did not have important investments in Zaire but it was confident in the country's future. He said that the second meeting of the Zaire-Brazil joint commission will take place in Kinshasa in December 1984 or January 1985. The first meeting took place in Brasilia in October (?1981).

The Brazilian minister of state will leave Kinshasa on Thursday for Brazzaville.

AZAP Comments on Training of African Troops

AB211620 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0940 GMT 21 Aug 84

[AZAP commentary: "A Still Active Solidarity"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 21 August (AZAP) — Last Sunday, the elements of the 1st Commando Battalion of the Chadian Armed Forces were commissioned at the end of their training at the Kotakoli Commando Training Center.

President Mobutu's presence at this ceremony underscored the importance Zaire attaches to its ties of friendship and solidarity with Chad. This is not the first time Chadian soldiers have come to Zaire for further training. For the past decade, our major training centers and institutions of higher studies have been receiving noncommissioned officers and soldiers from various African countries which have confidence in Zaire's ability to train crack soldiers. These countries are Togo, Rwanda, Burundi, Chad, and Mauritania.

By accepting soldiers from the brotherly countries in its military training centers, Zaire wants to demonstrate that solidarity toward the people of our continent has passed the stage of slogans and has entered the phase of concrete realities. This is particularly true because Zaire has not confined itself to receiving African soldiers but has sent its own soldiers to help other peoples on the continent. This was the case in Nigeria where some worthy sons of Zaire laid down their lives in order to safeguard Nigeria's territorial integrity. It is now the case in Chad where about 3,000 Zairian soldiers have been stationed so as to discourage the expansionist inclinations of a neighbor who is too much of a nuisance.

A famous Chinese proverb says that if you give a man a fish, you will feed him for a day, but if you teach him to fish, you will feed him for a lifetime. Chad, the victim of a foreign war, called on its friends for aid. It is true that Chad's problems concern only the Chadians themselves, but the friends of Chad have been helping the Ndjamena government strengthen its defense capabilities in order to restore the nation's territorial integrity and to rebuild the unity of the Chadian people.

Zaire's assistance to Chad deserves to be emphasized because it proves that despite its limited financial resources, a country can go to the aid of another country in difficulty, especially at this time when the OAU — which has been paralyzed — is almost absent from the continent's political scene.

The particularly gloomy international economic situation has compelled many countries with sometimes immense possibilities to be more prudent in their acts of solidarity toward other peoples. If Zaire had adopted the same attitude, it would have been only logical. However, the voice of its conscience always reminds Zaire that African solidarity constitutes the cornerstone of her foreign policy. This is why, despite her own difficulties, she is continuing to support Chad in order to help it safeguard its sovereignty just as she has been helping the African movements fighting for the independence of their countries or for the establishment of justice and legality among Africans.

BURKINA

Sankara Dismisses Executive for 'Ingratitude'

*AB250715 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 25 Aug 84*

[Decree signed by Burkinabe head of state Captain Thomas Sankara on 24 August in Ouagadougou — read by Warrant Officer Laurent Sawadogo]

[Text] Decree Dismissing an Insurance Executive Official. The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, and head of state decrees:

Article 1. Soumane Toure [member of the Patriotic League for Development] is hereby dismissed from the National Insurance and Reinsurance Company for the following reasons: first, ingratitude to the Burkinabe people who have denied themselves for his training as an insurance executive; secondly, systematic and deliberate obstruction of the triumphal march of the Democratic and Popular Revolution of 4 August 1983.

Article 2. The comrade ministers of finance, civil service, and labor and social affairs are charged at their respective levels with the enforcement of the present decree which takes effect as of 24 August 1984 and which will be published in the official journal of Burkina Faso.

Ouagadougou 24 August 1984

[Signed] Captain Thomas Sankara

AFP on RDC-LIPAD Power Struggle

AB250734 Paris AFP in English 0717 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Niamey, Aug 25 (AFP) — A senior member of a Marxist-Leninist group in Burkina Faso (former Upper Volta) was dropped from the civil service by presidential decree on Friday, the national radio reported in a broadcast monitored here.

The decree accused Soumane Toure, secretary-general of the Trade Unions Confederation and a member of the Patriotic Development League (LIPAD), of "systematic and deliberate obstruction of the triumphal march of the revolution." LIPAD had five ministers in the year-old government dissolved last Sunday. Mr Toure's labour confederation was the only trade union body to have stated its open support for the ruling National Revolutionary Council set up when Captain Thomas Sankara took power in a bloodless coup in Ouagadougou in August 1983. Observers here in the Niger capital viewed the action against Mr Toure as a strong warning to LIPAD, which has been increasingly at loggerheads with the local Revolutionary Defence Committees (RDC) set up by the left-wing military regime.

A first RDC-LIPAD clash occurred in May when Youth and Sports Minister Ibrahima Kone was sacked, allegedly for having staged an "anti-imperialist youth day" rally in a manner designed to strengthen support for LIPAD. The quarrel surfaced

again early this month when 23 Ouagadougou defence committees published a petition accusing the overall RDC Secretariat headed by Captain Pierre Ouedraogo of being the "accomplice" of some other defence committees said to be seeking to "split the militants and discredit the revolution."

The national radio broadcast was a retort to a major district committee in the capital which had accused LIPAD of being behind the petition and described it as a "veritable declaration of war."

Last Thursday the defence committee of the military garrison in Ouagadougou called for LIPAD to be ejected from the government. It said Mr Toure was a "megalomaniac," accused him of "anarchist and putschist" moves, said he had "intrigued" to be appointed secretary-general of the RDC's. It also blamed him for an "insurrection" among posts and telecommunications staff which led to the sacking of the head of the head of the service.

The LIPAD Politburo in turn put out a leaflet alleging that unidentified people had tried to murder Mr Toure at his home last Sunday. It said LIPAD militants "will not let themselves be assassinated like rabbits. They will counter any aggression in an appropriate manner, and will punish those responsible, whatever their masks or their lairs."

By so clearly backing the RDC's in the dispute, the ruling council seems to be accepting the risk of cutting itself off from LIPAD and of alienating that part of the trade union movement under LIPAD control, analysts here said. The latest development comes as consultations on the formation of a new cabinet continue. The new government is expected to be made up of new office-holders, as 14 of the 18 former ministers were this week assigned as foremen in a major state housing construction program.

Provincial Militants Support Sankara Decisions

*AB261320 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 25 Aug 84*

[Text] In Nahouri Province the militants of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] have met in Po and issued a motion of congratulations and support for the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and its chairman. Our correspondent Gomiebou Sidi Abi reports:

[Abi] Following the decree released on the evening of Sunday, 19 August 1984, relating to the dissolution of the Burkina Faso Government, the CDR Coordinating Bureau of Po Province met on 24 August 1984 and issued a motion of congratulations and support for the CNR and its chairman, Comrade Captain Thomas Sankara. The motion reads as follows:

Considering that power in the former revolutionary Upper Volta was unquestionably undermined by mean disputes among factions;

Considering the absolute need to clarify this situation in order enable a sound revolution, that is a democratic and popular revolution, to continue its process in Burkina Faso;

Considering the heroic, courageous, and highly responsible decision by the comrade president to dismiss the individuals of differing opinions who made up the government within which opportunism vied with sectarianism in revolutionary doctrine;

The militants of the incandescent hearth [city of Po, birthplace of the revolution] have risen like one man within their CDR bureaus to congratulate the comrade president for his insight, his courage and boldness, reaffirm their firm and unflinching support for the CNR in its constant attempt to find the best way for the revolution and the happiness of the Burkinabe people.

Fatherland or death, we will win!

GHANA

Nigerian Advocates Joint Military Hardware Venture
AB242010 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT
 24 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The Nigerian Air Force officer in charge of operations, Air Vice Marshal George Oshoe, today charged military personnel in Africa to continue to strive hard to update their knowledge and keep pace with the fast developing world of science and military technology. Speaking at the graduation of the seventh course of the Ghana Armed Forces Staff College, senior division, at Teshie [suburb of Accra], Air Vice Marshal Oshoe stressed the need for the judicious use of the scarce resources at the disposal of military personnel. Air Vice Marshal Oshoe, who was a guest of honor, said Ghana and Nigeria can explore the possibility of establishing joint joint ventures in the development of military hardware most suitable for their local environment.

World Bank Reports on Country's Economy
AB251110 Paris AFP in French 1845 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Abidjan, 24 Aug (AFP)—The revival of Ghana's economy should be followed by a trade liberalization, according to the World Bank in a study titled "An Economic Adjustment Program for Ghana" in which the bank reviews all the difficulties facing that country. According to the document, the needs of the economy are immense while the visible means and the economic management ability are limited. The international economic situation and its prospects, in particular for cocoa — Ghana's major basic product — are not very encouraging. Finally, the "chronic political instability has ruined the confidence foreign financial backers have in that country and has generated some skepticism in its own private sector." Therefore, World Bank economists believe that it is necessary to carefully schedule the stages of the process of economic adjustment in the fields of stabilization, revival, and liberalization.

The first phase aims in particular at reducing distortions in prices. The aim of the second phase is to enable a more efficient use of equipment, while that of the third phase is to liberalize trade and restrain government participation in the economy.

According to the study, when these phases have been implemented, Ghana could then ensure the continued growth of its economy. The Ghanaian economy, the World Bank noted, has continued to worsen during the past decade and the situation has "recently become critical." The past years have been characterized by a strong inflation and fall in production and exports. The fall in individual income has led to an increased number of inhabitants living in abject poverty. The distribution of income has worsened, unemployment has increased, and professionals are leaving the country in high numbers.

The study notes that the present situation "is due to the effect of both erroneous domestic policies and unfavorable external events." The authors of the World Bank report presented two views for the period 1983-90: One was pessimistic while the other was optimistic.

In the first case, the amount of money spent on imports is equal to the revenues from exports. In addition to this, there would be an influx of aid from the current commitments, credits approved by the IMF, and new credits from the International Development Association, a subsidiary of the World Bank. With this, the gross national product would gradually decline, imports stagnate, exports would only slowly increase while there would be a rapid rise in budget deficits.

In the second case, which is more heartening, the increase of individual incomes would be insignificant but would allow a more rapid rise in exports, the growth of savings, a modest increase in state revenues, and a reduction in the budget deficits.

The authors of the report indicate that for a country [words indistinct] the purchase of 30 percent during the last 10 years such prospects are not particularly attractive "but at least they represent a departure from past trends." Lastly, the World Bank insists that studies carried out in other developing countries (in Africa) have shown that a policy promoting diversified exports could contribute to the acceleration of Ghana's economic growth rate as in other countries.

IVORY COAST

Guinea's Conte Makes Official Working Visit

Arrives In Yamoussoukro
AB241340 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT
 24 Aug 84

[Text] Guinean head of state Colonel Lansana Conte arrived in Yamoussoukro a moment ago for a friendly working visit to Ivory Coast. Here is a report from Yamoussoukro by Joseph Taye, our permanent correspondent in Bouake:

[Taye] Col Lansana Conte, Guinean head of state and chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress — who is visiting our country and our new capital for the first time since becoming head of state of the Republic of Guinea — today arrived in Yamoussoukro at 1030. He was received on alighting from the plane by the head of state, President Felix Houphouët-Boigny, who was accompanied by Ministers of State Camille

Alliali, Mathieu Ekra, and Emile Kei-Boguinard as well as by Ministers Leon Konan Koffi, Jean Konan Banny, Simeon Ake, Denis Bra-Kanon, Balla Keita, Gui Dibo, Nicolas Kouandi-Angba, and Emile Brou, and the political and administrative authorities of the Central Region.

Following the military honors and after greeting the corporate bodies and peoples from the neighboring districts including a large delegation of the Guinean community living in Ivory Coast, the Guinean head of state briefly told the press the purpose of his visit to our country.

[Begin Conte recording] This visit should have been made long ago. It is a visit we have decided to make to our doyen, the President of Ivory Coast; it is a simple contact-making visit which is necessary between Guinea and Ivory Coast. [end recording]

Apart from Prime Minister Diara Traore, the Guinean head of state is accompanied by his ministers of foreign affairs, information, external trade, and interior as well as by the Guinean ambassador in Ivory Coast. Let us observe that the discussions to be held by the two heads of state will make it possible to strengthen and consolidate the century-old bonds of brotherhood and cooperation between the two countries.

Talks End, Conte Departs

*AB251100 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT
24 Aug 84*

[Excerpts] Another arrival on the Ivorian soil today is the friendly and working visit paid by Colonel Lansana Conte, the Guinean head of state, to President Houphouet-Boigny in Yamoussoukro. The Guinea president left this very evening for Conakry. I am calling our special correspondent, Joseph Tareg, to report on the talks between President Houphouet-Boigny and his guest.

[Begin recording] Even though nothing was revealed about their talks, it is believed that President Conte and President Felix Houphouet-Boigny reviewed cooperation between Guinea and our country and means to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood and cooperation already existing between the two countries. The Guinean head of state, Colonel Lansana Conte, and the delegation accompanying him left Yamoussoukro in the afternoon for Conakry. They were seen off at the airport by Mr Mathieu Ekra, minister of state, representing the head of state, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, along with members of the government and political and administrative officials of Yamoussoukro. [end recording]

LIBERIA

Politicians Reportedly Call on Doe To Resign

*AB241850 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT
24 Aug 84*

[Text] A number of politicians in Liberia have called on the country's leader, Mr Samuel Doe, in the name of fairness to resign following his decision to form a political party to contest

next year's elections for a return to civilian rule. They said this is necessary because all other government officials with political ambition have been made to resign.

Meanwhile, the New Democratic Movement of Ghana has condemned what it called the wave of repression of human and democratic rights in Liberia. In a statement issued in Accra today by the steering committee, the movement condemned the arrest and detention of Dr Amos Sawyer, a prominent academic, and other Liberians as an attack on democratic rights. It demanded the release of Dr Sawyer and all political prisoners, the reopening of the University of Liberia, and the reinstatement of the staff who have been dismissed.

Politicians Urged To Remain Loyal to Nation

*AB251426 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT
25 Aug 84*

[Text] Aspiring politicians throughout the country have been called upon not to allow party interest to supersede national interest.

The general coordinator of the Interim National Assembly, Mr Paul Harry (Wieh), made the call yesterday when he spoke at the (Sim's) Community School in (Cartwar) during a program marking the 137th anniversary of national flag day. He said the association with political parties should not mean a severance of our allegiance or loyalty to the nation, neither should it result in the disruption of law and order and disrespect to authority. Mr Harry (Wieh) also urged teachers and administrators of schools and institutions of higher learning throughout the country to instill discipline and the sense of nationalism in the students.

BBC Report on Liberian Church Council Letter Cited

*AB270728 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT
27 Aug 84*

[Text] The Liberian Council of Churches has made public a letter sent to the head of state, Commander in Chief Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, expressing its grave concern over recent developments in the country. According to the BBC, the letter read during church services criticizes the recent government's decree giving the Armed Forces wide powers of arrest and detention in connection with electoral activities, labor unrest, and state security.

The letter calls for the decree to be repealed and says the Council is vehemently opposed to arbitrary arrests, mysterious disappearances, and extra-judicial trials. It appeals to the head of state to act to reduce the mounting tension and arrests.

During the past week, there have been clashes between university students and troops following rumors of an attempted coup which led the head of state to cut short a visit to Europe last weekend. The students have been protesting against the detention of a leading opposition politician, Dr Amos Sawyer, who has been accused of plotting to overthrow the government.

NIGER

Cabinet Meets, Fears Worsening Food Situation

AB241125 Niamey Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT
24 Aug 84

[Summary] "The Council of Ministers met yesterday morning under the chairmanship of President Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council, head of state, and president of the council. It notably heard a presentation by Rural Development Minister Ari Toubou Ibrahim on the present agro-pastoral campaign and the food situation," as the secretary general of the government reports in the following statement:

[Begin recording] The presentation by the minister of rural development has shown that the "situation is preoccupying." It is marked by insufficient and irregular rainfall unevenly distributed to the various regions. The sowing campaign started with considerable delay because of a prolonged dry season.

"Unless the situation improves rapidly, the agricultural season already seems compromised. In view of this, the following measures are to be taken: First, rational utilization of the available food stock; second, more active participation of commercial operators in efforts to secure supplies; third, maximum exploitation of all developed land; fourth, the establishment of a satisfactory intensive farming program; and fifth, the (?strengthening) of the program for preserving cattle feed.

"The government asks all the people for moderation in order to avoid wasting foodstuffs. It further draws the attention of the international community to the risk of a worsening agro-pastoral and food situation in our country." [end recording]

NIGERIA

Idiagbon: Borders To Stay Closed for Economic Reasons

AB270950 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT
27 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The closure of the country's borders has been described as vital to the preservation of national economic well-being. They will therefore remain closed until alternative arrangements were made to ensure that these vital interests were adequately protected. The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, stated this in Lagos yesterday while speaking

on the Radio Nigeria public affairs program Matters of the Moment. He stressed that Nigeria's economic position had made it impossible for her to remain the breadbasket for her neighbors.

On the proliferation of professional bodies in the country, the chief of staff stated that government had enacted laws regulating the practice of a number of professions. He said that such bodies existed primarily to set standards for practitioners and regulate professional conduct of members, pointing out that only those of them covered by the existing laws were recognized by the government.

Brig Idiagbon noted that the proposed Fourth Nigerian International Trade Fair scheduled for November this year would show to the outside world the industrial potentialities of the country. He said that even at hard times such as Nigeria was currently passing through, it was necessary to engage in trade promotion to serve as impetus to the economic measures being taken by the present administration to resuscitate the economy. According to him, the fair would also expose to foreigners the opportunities offered by the Nigerian market so as to generate in them the desire to invest in the economy.

On the present state of the nation's economy, the chief of staff noted that it would be naive for anyone to expect that barely 4 months after the budget was announced the economy would have graduated from scarcity to surplus. He added that the financial assistance of over 690 million naira to state governments to pay arrears of salaries, was a clear testimony that the military intervention came to save a situation that would have gone worse.

British Representative Summoned for Discussions

AB260642 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT
26 Aug 84

[Text] The British acting high commissioner in Nigeria, Mr Thomas (?White), was yesterday summoned to the Ministry of External Affairs for discussions. (?There he held) discussions with the Minister of External Affairs Dr Ibrahim Gambari. A Radio Nigeria correspondent said this is the sixth time the British envoy has been summoned since the Umaru Dikko affair started in June.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Concludes Meetings in Romania

Meets Ceausescu 2d Time

MB250835 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the Republic, yesterday held his second working meeting with Nicolae Ceausescu, the Romanian head of state, with whom he discussed issues of bilateral interest. President Jose Eduardo dos Santos also met with Yasir 'Arafat, the leader of the PLO, after which he visited the exhibitions of Romanian economic and social achievements during its 40 years of existence as a socialist country.

On Wednesday, the Angolan head of state held a meeting with President Samora Machel of Mozambique, with whom he discussed issues connected with the situation in Southern Africa, particularly on Namibia. Both the presidents as well as the leader of the PLO are in Bucharest at the invitation of the Romanian head of state for the celebrations which marked the 40th anniversary of the triumph of the socialist revolution in Romania the day before yesterday.

Returns From East Europe

MB270707 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, returned home yesterday afternoon after visiting Yugoslavia and Romania. In Romania, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos met with Nicolae Ceausescu, Romanian head of state, and Samora Machel, Mozambique head of state, with whom he discussed issues of mutual interest.

In Romania, the Angolan head of state attended the festivities of the 40th anniversary of the triumph of the Romanian socialist revolution over the Hitler Nazi-Fascism. In Yugoslavia, despite the private nature of his visit, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos held some talks with the Yugoslav supreme leaders of the party and government of that country in order to strengthen the already traditional ties of friendship and solidarity existing between the two states.

On his arrival in Luanda, the supreme leader of the party and nation was greeted by members of the party Political Bureau and of the Central Committee and Government.

Soviet Parliamentarians Visit Benguela Province

MB241758 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] The delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet presently on a visit to our country at the invitation of the People's Assembly has been in Benguela Province since yesterday. In Benguela, the

Soviet parliamentarians have already held contacts with the local authorities on issues of mutual interest in the framework of deepening the cooperation between the legislatures of Angola and the USSR.

It will be recalled that the day before yesterday, the Soviet delegation, led by Antanas Barkauskas, the deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, held a meeting with Comrade Roberto de Almeida, the party Central Committee secretary for ideology. Also the day before yesterday, the Soviet parliamentarians held contacts with the deputies of the People's Assembly.

Minister Receives Nicaraguan Official, USSR Group

MB250930 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Evaristo Domingos Kimba, the minister of provincial coordination, yesterday gave an audience to Nora Astorga Gadea, the Nicaraguan deputy minister of foreign affairs, who conveyed to him a verbal message addressed to Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos from Daniel Ortega, the coordinator of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua.

Nora Astorga Gadea, who is also a member of the leading committee of the Sandinist Front, arrived in Luanda the day before yesterday and was received on the same day by Angolan External Affairs Minister Paulo Jorge, with whom he discussed issues of bilateral interest.

Minister Evaristo Kimba also received in audience the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation which arrived in Angola 3 days ago at the invitation of our country's People's Assembly.

The Soviet parliamentary delegation also visited Textang-2 [Angolan textile enterprise] yesterday, and was received by Mariano Puko, the chairman of the People's Assembly of the province of Luanda, with whom it examined various issues of mutual interest and aspects connected with Angolan and Soviet experience with regard to legislative bodies.

New Round of Talks To Be Held With South Africa

LD260914 Lisbon International Service in Portuguese
0830 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Reliable sources in Luanda have indicated that a new round of talks between South Africa and the People's Republic of Angola is reportedly planned for the next few weeks. According to the same sources in the Angolan capital, fresh negotiations are necessary since South Africa has not yet completely pulled its troops out of Angolan territory, contrary to pledges to that effect contained in the Lusaka Accord, signed last February. Negotiations will reportedly begin as soon as President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola returns from his scheduled trip to Spain, Bulgaria and France next September.

LESOTHO

Meeting on Water Scheme Cancelled at Last Minute

RSA Cites 'Security' Reasons

*MB241248 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 24 Aug 84*

[Text] A government spokesman has disclosed that South African officials due to attend a supervisor's meeting for 23 August 1984 in Maseru had cancelled the meeting at the last minute for reasons they claimed were related to security issues. The spokesman added that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had dispatched an urgent message to the Department of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria seeking clarification. The supervisor's meeting is part of the technical consultations on the Highland Water Scheme from which both Lesotho and South Africa stand to derive immense benefit.

Withdrawal Termed 'Political Pressure'

*MB241254 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1020 GMT 24 Aug 84*

[Text] Maseru, Aug 24, SAPA — The South African Government yesterday ordered a delegation of technical experts to withdraw from important discussions with Lesotho officials in Maseru on the Giant Highlands Water Project, a top Lesotho Government official said today. The minister of information and broadcasting, Mr Desmond Sixishe, said South Africa took the action to pressure Lesotho into signing a non-aggression pact along the lines of the Nkomati Accord.

Mr Sixishe said the Lesotho Government was informed about South Africa's attitude by a member of the South African delegation who said they had been ordered to withdraw from the talks for "political reasons." The meeting was to have discussed the go-ahead of geophysical investigations into the Highlands Scheme, the minister said.

Jonathan Still Wants Talks

*MB251220 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 25 Aug 84*

[Text] The prime minister, Dr Leabua Jonathan, says the Government of Lesotho is still waiting on South Africa for talks with Lesotho concerning the Highland Water Scheme. When asked for his opinion on the report by BBC that South Africa has stalled the talks, which were to have taken place this week between the government officials of Lesotho and South Africa, the prime minister said that he was willing to proceed with talks on the project.

He said the project will supply South Africa with water for its economy, while Lesotho would also derive revenue from the sale of the water to South Africa. He added that Lesotho viewed the project in the context of the mutual advantage to be gained by both countries, and considered it only in economic and no other term.

MOZAMBIQUE

Armed Forces Kill 20 'Bandits,' Capture Supplies

*MB260850 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0605 GMT 26 Aug 84*

[Text] In pursuance of the offensive for the total elimination of the armed bandits, our comrades stationed in Gaza and Magude attacked two bandit bases, killing eight bandits and capturing another two as well as a quantity of weapons and cases of ammunition. In Inhambane Province, our forces attacked another armed bandit base, capturing bazookas, AK weapons, mortar shells, cases of ammunition, and antitank mines. Also in the Tome area of Inhambane the local residents killed a bandit who tried to infiltrate into their midst. A group of bandits surprised by our forces in Nampula Province fled in disarray, leaving behind the bodies of 12 of their colleagues, while in the area of Nhaboa, Sofala Province, a collaborator of these criminals was captured by our forces.

President Machel Ends Visit, Talks in Romania

Final Meeting With Ceausescu

*MB241732 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1400 GMT 24 Aug 84*

[Text] In Bucharest this morning, President Samora Machel began talks with his Romanian counterpart, Nicolae Ceausescu. The two statesmen were still meeting early this afternoon. This is the second time they meet since the Mozambican head of state arrived in Bucharest.

Earlier, President Samora Machel received Antoine Ndinga-Oba, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation [title as heard] of the People's Republic of the Congo, to whom he explained the present situation in our country, namely the fight against the armed bandits. According to our correspondent in Bucharest, it was decided during this meeting that Joaquim Chissano, Mozambique's minister of foreign affairs, will go to Brazzaville to discuss important aspects of bilateral cooperation.

Meanwhile, the ministerial talks between Romania and Mozambique continued this afternoon and are expected to end this afternoon. The talks began after the first meeting between Presidents Samora Machel and Nicolae Ceausescu. Julio Carriho, Mozambique's minister of public works and housing, said in Bucharest that the talks are being cordially held. Today is the last day of President Samora Machel's working visit to Romania.

Agreements With Romania Reached

*MB250915 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1700 GMT 24 Aug 84*

[Report from Bucharest by [Suleiman Kadir]

[Text] This is the last contact which we are making with Mozambique from Bucharest, the capital of the Socialist Republic of

Romania, since this is also the last day of President Samora Machel's 5-day visit to this socialist country in southeastern Europe. Mozambique and Romania have agreed to substantially increase their cooperation. This is the main result of President Samora Machel's 5-day stay in this city, where he attended the festivities marking the 40th anniversary of the armed anti-Fascist, anti-imperialist national uprising.

Today, delegations from the two countries headed by Presidents Samora Machel and Nicolae Ceausescu met for approximately 2 hours following a private meeting at the presidential level. At the end of the talks it was agreed that Romania will intensify its cooperation with Mozambique in the fields of mineral resources, fisheries, construction, light industry, and metallurgy.

During the talks, the current joint projects, including the 400,000-hectare project in the provinces of Niassa and Cabo Delgado, were analyzed in detail. The Mozambican delegation praised the work carried out by the Romanian technicians in Mozambique. The two sides reiterated the principles of cooperation established during President Nicolae Ceausescu's visit to Mozambique in 1983, namely the principles of mutual advantages and common interests.

The principal elements for the implementation of common projects were also defined, particularly the creation of mixed enterprises in all cooperation areas. The two sides paid particular attention to the issues of profitability, efficiency, and appropriate management of the joint enterprises. It was agreed that the mixed enterprises should create profits for both sides. They should also train cadres and guarantee the necessary technical maintenance. It was decided that high level commissions will soon establish concrete mechanisms for the development of bilateral cooperation.

Since President Machel's arrival in Bucharest, on 20 August, Chissano, minister of foreign affairs; Julio Carrilho, minister of public works and housing; and Joao Ferreira, minister of agriculture, have met on a regular basis with their Romanian counterparts in order to analyze in detail the technical issues of cooperation. A source in the Mozambican delegation said, "The talks were very frank and open and led to positive results." The source added that consensus was reached on all aspects.

The first meeting between President Samora Machel and the Romanian leader took place on Monday. Today President Samora Machel also met Elena Ceausescu, the wife of the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania. Relations with Romania had already dealt with Frelimo in accordance with the norms observed with an independent state. In the words of a Mozambican minister, "Romania understands the potential of Mozambique, thus the development of long term cooperation will increase." As President Samora Machel put it only moments ago, cooperation between Romania and Mozambique will forever increase.

At the moment, President Samora Machel is holding a meeting — his last in Bucharest — with a foreign official who is the deputy chairman of the executive Political Bureau of the Popular Movement of the Revolution of Zaire. Tomorrow the presidential delegation of Mozambique will leave Bucharest for Varna, a city

which is located on the Black Sea in the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

Machel Returns From Visits

*MB270835 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0800 GMT 27 Aug 84*

[Text] President Samora Machel returned to Maputo this morning. He was greeted on arrival by Lieutenant General Armando Guebuza, a member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau, and other Mozambican leaders, as well as hundreds of Maputo residents. The welcome accorded to President Samora Machel also included military honors and traditional dances performed by different groups.

The Mozambican leader was in Europe, where he made a 5-day working visit to Romania and another 2-day visit to Bulgaria. During his stay in Romania, President Samora Machel took part in the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Romania from Nazi occupation.

RSA Envoy Meets With Joe Slovo in Maputo

*MB270645 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0600 GMT 27 Aug 84*

[Text] A top South African diplomat met the man his government regards as public enemy No 1. South Africa's trade representative in Mozambique Collin Patterson, has held what has been described as an informal conversation with Joe Slovo, the man Pretoria accuses of masterminding the ANC sabotage operations in the country. The unlikely encounter is reported to have taken place in Maputo on Friday after Slovo delivered a lecture at a Maputo university.

The South African Foreign Ministry has confirmed that Patterson attended what it called a formal occasion but has declined to comment further. The details of the conversation are sketchy but others covering the function say Patterson approached Slovo after the lecture, which was in memory of his wife, Ruth First, who was killed by a letter bomb at the same university 2 years ago. They say Patterson was heard to express condolences on First's death. A news agency correspondent then heard the two men talking formally about the ANC's armed struggle against white rule in South Africa. The *SUNDAY TIMES* yesterday reported that Slovo's whereabouts are unknown.

NAMIBIA

Angolans Must Cross Border To Buy Essentials

*MB241752 Windhoek Domestic Service in Afrikaans
1700 GMT 24 Aug 84*

[Text] Angolans crossing the border into South-West Africa in order to obtain essential provisions say that conditions in southern Angola are such, they are compelled to visit shops in Ovambo. A group of about 60 Angolans arrived in Ovambo this week to do shopping. They said in an interview with the South-West Africa Broadcasting Corporation that essentials such as

food and clothing are not obtainable in southern Angola. Shops, they said, are limited to the central parts of the country.

Security Police Take Action Against SWANU Members

MB241946 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1900 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] In Namibia, security police have taken action against members of one of the territory's internal political parties. (Julia Singer) has details:

[(Singer)] The 10 South-West Africa National Union [SWANU] members who have been questioned by security police are all radically opposed to the leadership of Moses Katjiuongua, and SWANU's participation in the Multi-Party Conference [MPC] of six internal parties. They were questioned about a meeting held in Otjiwarongo recently, when a motion of no confidence in Katjiuongua was adopted, and there was a call to withdraw SWANU's participation from the MPC. The split in SWANU has led to violence with the recent stabbing of an expelled leader (Freddie Ngovalva), by (Frank Murongi), a Central Committee and Politburo member and a Katjiuongua supporter. It is believed that the resort to violence was an attempt to stop SWANU members from holding a congress to oust him and to withdraw SWANU participation in the MPC.

Nujoma in Harare, Says RSA Dismantling Rail Line

MB251242 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1943 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Harare, Aug 24 SAPA — South Africa has started to dismantle an important railway line from the SWA/Namibian hinterland to Windhoek in a deliberate attempt to sabotage the country's transport network and to perpetuate its dependence on Pretoria, SWAPO President Sam Nujoma said here today.

Shortly before leaving Harare for Lusaka, Mr Nujoma said "the dismantling process" would be finished by the end of September. South Africa, he added, wanted the future Namibia to rely on South African-controlled Walvis Bay for all its imports and exports.

The SWAPO leader has been in Zimbabwe for three days on a unpublicised visit which he said was aimed at briefing Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe on the situation in SWA/Namibia. Talking to reporters at the airport, Mr Nujoma vowed the determination of the South West Africa People's Organisation to continue an armed struggle in the territory. He said South Africa had refused to sign a ceasefire agreement with SWAPO, both in Lusaka and in the Cape Verde Island, because of Pretoria's intransigence and the belief that its "puppets" in SWA/Namibia would lose any future elections. The refusal from South Africa had left SWAPO with no other alternative, he said, but to intensify the "struggle for independence".

Mr Nujoma said South Africa had been sabotaging the SWA/Namibian economy through overfishing of local waters, exploitation of natural resources and of the beef industry. During his Zimbabwe visit, Mr Nujoma said, he had been assured by Mr

Mugabe of the government's continued material, diplomatic, and political support for the "Namibian struggle".

Oliver Tambo Solidarity Message on Namibia Day

EA261827 Addis Ababa Voice of Freedom in English
to South Africa 1930 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Oliver Tambo's message of solidarity with the people of Namibia — recorded]

[Text] In your names, dear compatriots, we salute our comrades in arms, the heroic people of Namibia, their valiant vanguard, SWAPO, and the mighty People's Liberation Army of Namibia, PLAN, all under the dynamic leadership of President Sam Nujoma. We pledge our solidarity with them. We condemn the Reagan administration and the Pretoria fascists, Pretoria's crimes against Namibia and the People's Republic of Angola.

(?In spite of problems), in spite of the Reagan administration and the Pretoria racists, even because of them, Namibia will be liberated by SWAPO and the people of Namibia.

SOUTH AFRICA

Four Railway Police Injured in Explosion

MB241832 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1830 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Johannesburg, Aug 24, SAPA — Four members of the South African Railway Police [SARP] and a civilian woman were injured today when an explosion ripped through a building in central Johannesburg. The 5:30 pm blast at the fifth floor offices of the SARP in the Anchor Life Insurance Centre, Plein Street, caused extensive damage, according to Major General Robbie Robbertze, deputy commissioner of operations for the Railway Police. He said the explosive device, placed in the passage outside the radio room, had not yet been identified.

The four injured railway policemen were working in the radio room. The explosion blew out more than a dozen windows and buckled a section of the building between the fourth and fifth floors. General Robbertze said the four SARP members and the woman had been taken to hospital. He added that the condition of the policemen was not serious, but could not comment on the civilian woman.

The southern Transvaal regional commissioner of the SARP takes up the 4th, 5th and 6th floors of the Anchor Life Centre, which is situated across the street from the Johannesburg Licensing Department. The six-storey building also houses the offices of the Directorate of Colored Affairs.

Minutes after the blast, police had cordoned off the four blocks around the blast area, which was crowded with afternoon traffic and hundreds of spectators. Two fire engines were on the scene but did not have to take any action. General Robbertze said the investigation of the blast would be handled by the SARP.

although the aid of South Africa's police could be called in a later stage. The Anchor Life blast comes a day after an explosion rocked another government department in Johannesburg — the offices of the Department of Education and Training in the southern suburb of Booysens. No one has claimed responsibility for the blasts, which came on the heels of Wednesday's Colored elections for the House of Representatives.

In yesterday's incident, a gaping hole was blown out of one of the floors of Garland House at Ophirton, Booysens, in a 6:30pm explosion. No one was injured in the explosion and ensuing fire, which caused extensive damage. Police investigations were reportedly hampered by the large amount of water used to extinguish the fire.

Pik Botha: Namibia Cease-fire Problems Near Head

Negotiations at 'Delicate Stage'

*MB260730 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 26 Aug 84*

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says problems with the cease-fire in northern South-West Africa could come to a head within the next few days. Addressing students at the University of Pretoria, Mr Botha said negotiations were at a very delicate stage and that the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, was expected back in South Africa within the next 2 weeks for further discussions.

Mr Botha said it would also become clear in the next few weeks to what extent SWAPO was prepared to enter into a cease-fire agreement with South Africa. There were, however, various aspects of the South-West African issue which could go wrong overnight.

Referring to Lesotho, Mr Botha said a stage had been reached in which South Africa had to consider suspending the Highland Project if the Lesotho Government would also have to give serious consideration to stricter border control measures between the two countries and possibly to other measures to safeguard South Africa's interests. Mr Botha said South Africa and Lesotho had been on the verge of reaching an agreement before the prime minister's visit to Europe about 3 months ago.

U.S. Official's Visit Confirmed

*MB270606 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 27 Aug 84*

[Excerpts] Confirmation has been received that the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, will visit South Africa within the next 2 weeks for further discussions on South-West Africa and a cease-fire. When making the announcement in Pretoria this weekend, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said problems in connection with the cease-fire in northern South-West Africa could come to a head within the next few days.

Mr Botha also referred to Botswana, saying that relations between that country and the South African Security Forces

were not satisfactory at present. The government knew that now that the ANC had been expelled from Mozambique the organization was looking at Botswana as an infiltration route to South Africa. He said that, should it become necessary, the South African Forces would strike back over a wider front than just terrorist targets. Mr Botha said negotiations were continuing with the Botswana police to find a suitable means of countering the new threat.

Namibia Administration Could End

*MB260842 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0755 GMT 26 Aug 84*

[Excerpts] Johannesburg, Aug 26, SAPA — The Government would not hesitate to end its administration of SWA/Namibia if it became apparent that South Africa was no longer welcome in the territory, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said last night. The minister added that a Cuban withdrawal from Angola still remained a prerequisite for peace. And because there was uncertainty as to when the pullout would take place, an all-out effort should be made now to achieve a ceasefire. Mr Botha reaffirmed the Government's policy of keeping a presence in SWA/Namibia as long as the people in the territory were in favour of such action. However, he said, if it became clear that South Africa was no longer welcome in SWA/Namibia, the government would not hesitate to terminate its administration.

Lesotho Talk Withdrawal Not 'Political Pressure'

Sixishe Allegations 'Unfounded'

*Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 25 Aug 84*

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria has denied allegations made by the Lesotho minister of information, Mr Sixishe, that South Africa has recalled certain technicians taking part in the talks on the Highland Water Project. A spokesman said the department knew nothing of such an order.

Lesotho Letter Not Received

AB251331 Paris AFP in English 1243 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Pretoria, Aug 25 (AFP) — The South African Foreign Ministry today denied receiving a note from the Lesothan Government requesting an explanation for Pretoria's failure to attend a planned bilateral meeting Thursday. Lesothan Information Minister Desmond Sixishe said earlier that his government had sent Pretoria a message asking why South Africa had not sent representatives to Thursday's meeting on the joint South Africa-Lesotho highlands water project.

The one billion dollar project involves the construction of five dams in northeast Lesotho to divert water north to South Africa's Vaal dam, which supplies the Johannesburg area. The tiny Kingdom surrounded by South Africa has accused Pretoria of blocking feasibility studies on the giant hydro project to pressure Lesotho into signing a nonaggression pact similar to ones already reached with Mozambique and Swaziland.

Pretoria has consistently charged that Lesotho was harbouring members of the outlawed anti-apartheid African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa. Under the security pact, Lesotho would pledge not to back ANC guerrillas. "We have not received the note," a spokesman for the South African Foreign Ministry said. Sources close to the ministry also denied that South Africa was trying to force Lesotho into signing a security pact, but admitted that relations between the two states were "strained." The sources added that it would be unrealistic to expect South Africa to join in a major joint project if the security of its interests were not guaranteed.

Last week, Lesotho's prime minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan, accused South Africa of offering him a personal gift of one million rand (660,000 dollars) and another one million rand to his ruling Basotho National Party on condition that he sign the security pact. Lesotho has also charged South Africa with tightening border controls, leading to delays in imports of vital fresh foods and the delivery of British arms and an Italian helicopter needed to distribute emergency food aid to drought-stricken rural areas.

Botswana, another landlocked neighbour of South Africa, has also frequently accused Pretoria of pressuring it to sign a non-aggression treaty under which it would agree not to harbour ANC militants.

ANC Terrorist in Swaziland Blamed for Sabotage

*MB261236 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English
26 Aug 84 p 1*

[Excerpts] A mystery South African-born Indian, identified in the banned ANC only as "Rashid", is behind the new wave of terrorist attacks in South Africa, particularly in Natal. He is a Carlos the Jackal-type terrorist who is believed to be a member of a prominent Durban family. "Rashid" is a former adjutant of the South African Communist Party's chief strategist, Joe Slovo.

He is a shadowy figure and the Security Branch of the SAP is reluctant to talk about him because of his internal connections. "Rashid" and Slovo have been identified as the two ANC/SACP men responsible for co-ordinating all the main acts of sabotage within South Africa. Slovo's present whereabouts are unknown. He is believed to have been expelled from his base in Maputo after signing of the Nkomati Accord with Mozambique.

"Rashid" is reported to be working with Ronnie Kasrils, a former University of Natal student, within the ANC's intelligence service. Kasrils works under the operational name of "M.K. Khumalo", and is well known to intelligence agents in South Africa. A police expert on the ANC, Brigadier Herman Stadler, says "Rashid" is now a member of the executive of the "Natal machinery" of the ANC.

The existence of "Rashid" was revealed this week by Brig Stadler, intelligence chief of the Security Branch, at a seminar on urban terrorism in Durban organised by the Chamber of

Commerce. He said "Rashid" provided intelligence for the Solomon Mhlangu sabotage squad, which is now known as the Special Operations Group. The squad was responsible for the increase in terror acts from 19 in 1980 to 55 in 1983.

Brig Stadler said "Rashid" was based in "one of South Africa's border countries". The country is believed to be Swaziland — although the ANC is compelled to operate clandestinely and without the approval of the Swaziland Government. Brig Stadler said a number of South African Indians were involved in the ANC, but "mainly on the administrative side".

SABC Chief: Company Favors 'Consensus Politics'

*MB241533 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 24 Aug 84*

[Text] Mr Riaan Eksteen, the director general of the South African Broadcasting Corporation [SABC], says that under the new political dispensation the SABC will not have a sympathetic ear for the message of terror of the ANC or its faceless fellow travelers. Addressing the Cape Town press club this afternoon, he said the SABC declares itself totally on the side of consensus politics as opposed to the style of confrontation politics.

Mr Eksteen said that on the one hand the SABC is committed to responsible reporting reflecting all elements of political debate. On the other hand, it will ably support reportage emphasizing the search for consensus, even in conflict situations, rather than dramatic confrontation which produces infrequent or no results.

Mr Eksteen said in the new dispensation the information function of the SABC may have to be brought into sharper focus, and it is expected that the debate on the steps being taken by the government of the day will become a more prominent element in its daily presentation. The SABC accepts the implication under the new dispensation that whites, Coloreds, and Indians will have a new relation in respect of each other in the government of the country and, Mr Eksteen said, it has an obligation to the communities that they be informed about the standpoints, fears, and expectations of the others.

Cape Students Prevent Buthelezi From Speaking

*MB241337 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 24 Aug 84*

[Text] A group of University of Cape Town students have prevented Chief Gatsha Buthelezi from addressing a meeting on campus. An angry Buthelezi has left Cape Town today after 200 chanting students stopped his address last night. (Jean Fairbairn) has the details:

[Begin recording] Buthelezi was to have been one of the last speakers at a workshop organized by the Center for Intergroup Studies. Shortly before his talk, about 200 students marched into the lecture hall, chanting and singing freedom songs. They told members of the audience they were protesting because Buthelezi had, in their words, sanctified the killing of five students when Inkatha warriors invaded Ongoye University in Natal in October last year. Buthelezi was angry at not being able to speak. He

blamed the United Democratic Front for the demonstration which, he said, was just another orchestrated incident planned in the dangerous battle the front was waging against Inkatha.

School Boycotts Underway Before Indian Elections

*MB271042 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1000 GMT 27 Aug 84*

[Text] In Indian communities around South Africa the anti-election campaign is in top gear. Reports from Cape Town say all tertiary educational institutions are boycotting classes. Sources in Durban say three schools in Merebank are also on boycott. At a meeting in Port Elizabeth, the president of the Eastern Province Council of Sport, (Basil Brown), said rejection of the new deal was a rejection of apartheid. (Brown) told his audience in the Malabar Township that people who stay away from the polls are not boycotters but are resisters of the apartheid system. The meeting organized by the United Democratic Front was attended by 500 people.

Labor Leader Sets Out New Parliament Priorities

*MB241314 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 24 Aug 84*

[Text] The Labor Party's first priority will be the economic and educational upliftment of the Colored people. So says the party's leader, Alan Hendrickse, after the Laborites swept to election victory at the polls. Hendrickse says the Labor Party will give the constitution 5 years to work. If it does not, they will withdraw. Hendrickse says: We will admit we tried negotiation, but it failed. The Labor Party won 76 of the 80 seats in the House of Representatives.

Elections Termed 'Failure', Further Boycott Urged

*EA251941 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English
to South Africa 1930 GMT Aug 84*

[Text] Compatriots, there is no more doubt now that Wednesday's bogus elections for the Colored people under the auspices of the triracial parliamentary system were a complete failure. According to highly inflated estimates, about 20 percent of the Colored population went to the polling slaughter house. This low turnout clearly demonstrates the total rejection by the people of our country of this latest maneuver by the enemy to entrench apartheid by drawing our Indian and Colored compatriots into the sinking ship of apartheid. What was more embarrassing for the enemy was that even in the main residential area of the Colored population, the Cape Peninsula, less than five percent of the people turned up.

It is important to note that this failure of Botha's scheme, especially in the western Cape, proves that all attempts and tricks used by the enemy to win the support of the Colored people have failed. [passage indistinct]

Next Tuesday, 28 February, the regime and its police will be all out, using all means at their disposal, to try and force our Indian

compatriots to the polling slaughter house in order to salvage their empty reforms. There is no doubt, however, that if the racists failed to hoodwink our Colored compatriots, who are treated as second-class citizens, into accepting the new deal there is absolutely no chance with the Indians, who are regarded and treated as third-class citizens.

It is still the duty of all of us dear compatriots to ensure a total boycott of the puppet elections scheduled for next Tuesday. We shall start now, when we shall (?spread) the call among our brothers and organize them to boycott the bogus elections. We have no doubt that no patriotic Indian in our country will ever betray the ideals of Yusuf Dawood and Mahatma Gandhi by joining the doomed apartheid system, especially at this time on the eve of our popular victory. Down with the puppet elections. [passage indistinct]

SWAZILAND

Mozambican Students Detained at Lomahasha

*MB241723 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 24 Aug 84*

[Text] Two Mozambican students from Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo are being held at Lomahasha police station for further investigation after having crossed into Swaziland illegally. The students, who yesterday appeared before the minister of interior, Mr King Mtetwa, and the commissioner of police, Mr Majaji Simelane, flanked by top officials of the police force, claimed to be members of the Mozambique Resistance Movement fighting to overthrow the Frelimo government of President Machel.

They say they are in transit to South Africa to present themselves to Mr Adriaan Bomba, chief and commander of the Resistance Movement of Mozambique. Asked if they knew where Mr Bomba stays in South Africa, the students said they would find his station through the South African authorities. The students, who were caught along the Lomahasha border, had in possession a pistol, which they say they found lying with a dead body of a Mozambican soldier on the other side of the border.

Police Arrest 5 ANC Members, Seize Ammunition

*MB251050 Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS in English
25 Aug 84 p 1*

[Excerpt] Five members of the ANC were arrested and 300 rounds of ammunitions seized in a police swoop in Manzini yesterday. The men are being detained at Manzini police station for interrogation. A senior police spokesman said that the arrests were made as result of a tip from their "network" in Manzini.

He said that the men could not be fresh from their homes. "Judging by the fact that they have been found in possession of ammunition they must come from training." "After appearing in court, arrangements would be made with government to fly the five ANC out of the country," he told *THE SWAZI NEWS*.

RSA Official Discusses Reform, Cooperation

*MB270827 Johannesburg International Service
in English 0630 GMT 26 Aug 84*

[Text] The South African deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Louis Nel, says the process of reform in the country must be controlled to prevent the development of a chaotic situation which could spill over into neighboring countries. Mr Nel was speaking at the opening of an international trade fair in Swaziland. He said there was much internal opposition to the process of reform in South Africa, both from the left and the right. There would, however, be no turning back.

Mr Nel also called for greater cooperation between Southern African states and said this should not be confined to trade but should be extended to include sports and tourism. He said that the vast human and natural resources of Southern Africa could only be developed to the full if peace reigned in the entire region.

Turning to sport, Mr Nel asked why Southern African countries would not establish sports ties with South Africa when the had all benefited through cooperation in the fields of health, agriculture, forestry, water resources, veterinary services and research, security, and tourism.

ZAMBIA**PLO's 'Arafat To Begin 3-Day Visit 27 Aug**

*MB261215 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 26 Aug 84*

[Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat arrives in Lusaka tomorrow to begin a 3-day official visit to Zambia. A government spokesman said Mr 'Arafat will hold talks with President Kaunda and (?post) him on the latest situation in the Middle East. The PLO chief is on tour of several African countries which support the Palestinian cause against Israeli expansionism. Mr 'Arafat is now in Dar es Salaam, where he has had talks with President Julius Nyerere.

ZIMBABWE**Zimbabwe Troops Providing Mozambique Security**

AB241330 Paris AFP in French 1135 GMT 24 Aug 84

[By Special AFP Correspondent Jean-Michel Stoullig]

[Excerpts] Maforga (Central Mozambique), 24 Aug (AFP) — There are 16 compulsory checkpoints for the motorist who takes the risk, now reduced, of descending from the Zimbabwean plateau to head toward the Mozambican port of Beira. Along the 300-km run, there are 16 roadblocks controlled by Mozambican soldiers and militia men — with ill-assorted uniforms and sometimes barefooted — who politely ask for that hard-to-find treasure, a cigarette.

However, the visible presence of the Mozambican forces is not as responsible for the recent improvement of security in the center of the country as is the Nkomati Accord signed with South Africa on 16 March and especially the activity of the Zimbabwean

Army in the strategic Mutare-Beira "corridor." Since the end of 1982, hundreds of Zimbabwean soldiers — their number kept a secret by the authorities is estimated at 700 — have been guarding the oil pipeline, the railroad, and the road in a 20-km-wide strip against attacks by guerrillas of the Mozambican National Resistance Movement (MNR). The security of the oil pipeline is vital for the supply of refined oil to Zimbabwe.

The MNR is present all over Mozambican territory and has even increased its pressure in the north and the extreme south of the country but its guerrilla activities have decreased for many months now in the Manica and Foz de Ouzal provinces in central Mozambique. The number of incidents in this area fell from 26 to 16 between July and August, according to a reliable Zimbabwean source. Since January, there has not been any electric power cut in Beira — where the food situation remains precarious despite the slight improvement and where gasoline is being severely rationed — reflecting the fact that there has been no sabotage of the power line since that date.

The activities of the Zimbabwean "task force" in the allied territory [Mozambique] remains a delicate subject. Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, who took a long time to publicly admit the dispatch of troops to Mozambique, has refused to say how many soldiers have been sent and how many have been killed. "It is a security question, I am astonished that deputies have been asking such questions," he told parliament last week. It is known, however, that five Zimbabwean soldiers were killed at the end of January near the Mafoga pumping station, which is equidistant from Beira and Mutare, and that four others were killed in April.

President Returns Home From Romanian Visit

*MB261226 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 26 Aug 84*

[Text] The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, arrived in Harare this morning after attending the 40th anniversary celebrations of the Romanian people to mark their victory over Fascism and imperialism on 23 August 1944. He was met at the airport by the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, government officials, and members of the diplomatic corps. Comrade Banana was accompanied by the minister of home affairs, Comrade Simbi Maboko, and senior government officials.

ZANU Commissariat To Plan Election Strategy

*MB241224 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 24 Aug 84*

[Text] The ZANU Commissariat has been charged with the immediate task of planning a strategy for the next general elections. The secretary for the commissariat and culture, Comrade Herbert Ushewokunze, told the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation that the next election is crucial and the commissariat should start preparing a strategy now.

He said workers in the public and private sectors should be given lectures on the importance of socialism in Zimbabwe. Comrade

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Ushewokunze, who is also the minister of transport, said if the Politburo gives him the mandate he will start lectures at (Kubatala) College in Koromondzi to teach party cadres and leaders on the [word indistinct] aspects of socialism.

Commissariat more effective in its functions. He said Zimbabwe is aware of the mistakes by other African countries in applying socialism, adding that this is why the government has embarked on gradual process to socialism.

The minister also said he is working on plans to make the